

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1279

6  
7 H.P. 978

House of Representatives, March 22, 1983

8 Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up  
9 for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Connolly of Portland.

Cosponsor: Senator Brown of Washington.

11  
12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE  
16

17 AN ACT Relating to Meritorious Good Time.  
18

19 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
20 follows:

21 17-A MRSA §1253, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1975,  
22 c. 499, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in  
23 its place:

24 4. Each person sentenced shall be entitled to  
25 increasing monthly deductions, at the rate estab-  
26 lished by this subsection, for successful participa-  
27 tion in prison programs and for work performed.  
28 Unless otherwise determined, the deduction shall com-  
29 ound at the rate of 1/3 day per month such that the  
30 deduction available in any month shall consist of the  
31 cumulative total of all prior deductions earned under  
32 this subsection, plus 1/3 day additional. The cor-  
33 rectional facility's warden, or the supervisor  
34 assigned to the particular inmate, shall conduct a

1 monthly review of each inmate's conduct and his  
2 advancement toward or retreat from the rehabilitative  
3 goals established with that individual to determine  
4 whether or not the additional 1/3 day deduction for  
5 that month shall be given. Misconduct or failure to  
6 perform work or to participate in rehabilitative pro-  
7 grams may, in the warden's or supervisor's discre-  
8 tion, result in the complete or partial loss of the  
9 accumulated deductions used for determining the rate  
10 of future monthly deductions under this subsection,  
11 such that the inmate's monthly deduction rate may be  
12 set back to the original rate of 1/3 day a month.

13 The good time deductions granted under this subsec-  
14 tion, when combined with the other deductions that  
15 may be granted under this section, may not exceed 50%  
16 of a person's sentence.

17 STATEMENT OF FACT

18 The purpose of this bill is to increase the moti-  
19 vation for prisoners to participate in rehabilitative  
20 programs by granting them "good time" deductions for  
21 that participation. The bill establishes a "good  
22 time" deduction rate of 1/3 day a month that com-  
23 pounds each month, such that in the first month the  
24 inmate earns 1/3 day; in the 2nd month 2/3 day (1/3 +  
25 1/3); in the 3rd month one full day (2/3 + 1/3); and  
26 so on. The bill also encourages the Department of  
27 Corrections to establish the framework in which this  
28 program may operate.

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