

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 408

H.P. 319

House of Representatives, February 5, 1985

Reference to the Committee on State Government suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Michaud of Medway.

Cosponsored by Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Senator Pray of Penobscot and Senator Violette of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Reduce the Length of
the First Legislative Session from
100 Days to 90 Days and Set a
Calendar Deadline of June 15th
and Reduce the Length of the 2nd
Legislative Session from 50 Days to
40 Days and Set a Calendar
Deadline of April 15th.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Legislature wishes to reduce the length of its sessions and establish fixed calendar dates for adjournment; and

Whereas, it is vitally necessary to put this institutional reform into effect at the earliest possible time to conserve tax dollars; and

1 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
2 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
3 the Constitution of Maine and require the following
4 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
5 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
6 therefore,

7 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
8 follows:

9 3 MRSA §2, 2nd ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL
10 1975, c. 750, §1, is amended to read:

11 The Except as otherwise provided in this para-
12 graph, the first regular session of the Legislature
13 shall adjourn no later than 100 June 15th following
14 its convening and shall contain no more than 90 leg-
15 islative days after its convening and the 2nd regular
16 session of the Legislature shall adjourn no later
17 than 50 April 15th following its convening and shall
18 contain no more than 40 legislative days after its
19 convening. The Legislature, in case of emergency,
20 may by a vote of 2/3 of the members of each House
21 present and voting, extend the date for adjournment
22 for the first or 2nd regular session by no more than
23 5 legislative days, and in case of further emergency,
24 may by a vote of 2/3 of the members of each House
25 present and voting, further extend the date for ad-
26 journment by 5 additional legislative days, provided
27 that the calendar deadline set out in this paragraph
28 for adjournment of that session is not exceeded. The
29 Notwithstanding the calendar deadline set out in this
30 paragraph for adjournment of the Legislature, the
31 times for adjournment for the first and 2nd regular
32 sessions may also be extended for one additional leg-
33 islative day for the purpose of considering possible
34 objections of the Governor to any bill or resolution
35 presented to him by the Legislature under the Consti-
36 tution, Article IV, Part Third, Section 2.

37 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited
38 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when ap-
39 proved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2 The purpose of this bill is to reduce the length
3 of the First Regular Session of the Legislature from
4 100 to 90 days and establish a calendar deadline of
5 June 15th and reduce the length of the 2nd Regular
6 Session from 50 to 40 days and establish a calendar
7 deadline of April 15th.

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