

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
(New Draft of H.P. 319, L.D. 408)
(New Title)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document No. 1333

H.P. 928 House of Representatives, April 17, 1985
Reported by Representative Gwadosky from the Committee on State Government and printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill sponsored by Representative Michaud of Medway. Cosponsored by Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, President Pray of Penobscot, and Senator Violette of Aroostook.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Establish Fixed Dates for the
Adjournment of the First and Second
Regular Sessions of the Legislature.

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

Whereas, the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 1, empowers the Legislature to establish appropriate statutory limits on the length of the first and 2nd regular legislative sessions; and

Whereas, the people of the State are entitled to expect that their elected representatives will deal with the legislative business expeditiously; and

1 Whereas, the establishment of a date certain for
2 the adjourning of the Legislature will provide for
3 Legislators, the legislative staff, the Executive De-
4 partment, the Judicial Department and the public with
5 a clear time frame for the conduct of the business of
6 the people; and

7 Whereas, the length of the legislative session is
8 directly related to the expenditure of the public
9 fisc and the shortening of the length of the sessions
10 will result in a substantial savings to the public
11 fisc, as substantial savings can be realized if this
12 legislation is effective now; and

13 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
14 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
15 the Constitution of Maine and require the following
16 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
17 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
18 therefore,

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

21 3 MRSA §2, 2nd paragraph, as repealed and re-
22 placed by PL 1975, c. 750, §1, is amended to read:

23 The first regular session of the Legislature, af-
24 ter its convening, shall adjourn no later than ~~100~~
25 legislative days after its convening June 15th and
26 the 2nd regular session of the Legislature shall ad-
27 ourn no later than 50 legislative days after its
28 convening April 15th. In the event that June 15th in
29 the year of the first regular session or April 15th
30 in the year of the 2nd regular session is a Saturday
31 or Sunday, the adjournment date for the first regular
32 session shall be the Friday prior to June 15th and
33 the adjournment date for the 2nd regular session
34 shall be the Friday prior to April 15th. The Legisla-
35 ture, in case of emergency, may by a vote of 2/3 of
36 the members of each House present and voting, extend
37 the date for adjournment for the first or 2nd regular
38 session by no more than 5 legislative days, and in
39 case of further emergency, may by a vote of 2/3 of
40 the members of each House present and voting, further
41 extend the date for adjournment by 5 additional leg-

