

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 516

S.P. 189

In Senate, February 24, 1987

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate  
Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative PARADIS of Augusta,  
Representative COTE of Auburn, Representative BEGLEY of  
Waldoboro.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT to Allow the Use of Electronic Recording in  
2 District, Superior and Administrative  
3 Courts.  
4

5 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
6 follows:

7 4 MRSA §651, 3rd ¶, as amended by PL 1981, c.  
8 647, §3, is further amended to read:

9 The Supreme Judicial Court shall prescribe rules,  
10 requirements and regulations, not inconsistent with  
11 this Title or other laws of the State, which will in-  
12 sure the production of a readable reviewable record  
13 of proceedings before the District or Superior Court  
14 by stenographic methods or any other suitable means,  
15 including, but not limited to, electronic recording  
16 equipment. The Supreme Judicial Court may prescribe

1 rules, requirements and regulations that will allow  
2 Class D and Class E criminal proceedings heard by a  
3 District Court Judge, sitting as a Superior Court  
4 Judge in a District Court facility on a jury waived  
5 trial, to be reported by whatever methods are availa-  
6 ble in District Court proceedings.

7

STATEMENT OF FACT

8 The purpose of this bill is to allow the use of  
9 electronic recording in Superior Court facilities as  
10 well as District and Administrative Court facilities.  
11 It is intended that such equipment be phased into use  
12 in the Superior Court and that incumbent official  
13 court reporters not be laid off as a result of the  
14 introduction of new technology.

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