

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1421

S.P. 464

In Senate, May 4, 1987

Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to
Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and
ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SEWALL of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Representative FOSTER of Ellsworth,
Representative LORD of Waterboro, Senator THERIAULT of
Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**AN ACT to Simplify Fees for Certified Copies
of Divorce Reports.**

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

22 MRSA §2804, as amended by PL 1967, c. 186, §3,
is further amended to read:

§2804. -- index

The Registrar of Vital Statistics shall prepare
and keep an alphabetical index, by the names of both
parties, of all annulments and divorces reported.
When requested, the registrar shall cause a search to
be made of his files for the record of any divorce or
annulment and shall furnish a copy thereof. The fee
for such search and copy shall ~~be \$27, payable in~~

1 advance reasonably reflect the cost of the service,
2 as specified in section 9, subsection 1.

3 STATEMENT OF FACT

4 The Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section
5 2804, enacted in 1967, set the fee for a certified
6 copy of a divorce report at \$2. This amount does not
7 cover the cost of searching for the desired record
8 and preparing a properly certified copy once the cor-
9 rect record is located, nor the cost of filing, edit-
10 ing, computerizing and indexing the records after
11 they are prepared and submitted by the clerks of
12 court. The current fee for certified copies of other
13 vital records is \$5; the amount is determined by
14 periodic reviews in accordance with Title 22, section
15 9, which gives the department authority to charge
16 fees which reasonably cover the costs of providing
17 requested services.

18 This bill deletes the inclusion of the specified
19 fee in Title 22, section 2804, and substitutes a ref-
20 erence to Title 22, section 9, subsection 1.

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