

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Governor's Bill)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1814

H.P. 1330 House of Representatives, June 11, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Aging, Retirement and
Veterans suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative PARADIS of Old Town.

Cosponsored by Senator PERKINS of Hancock,
Representatives PRIEST of Brunswick and DUTREMBLE of Biddeford.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT to Create a New Major
2 Policy-influencing Position for the
3 Department of Defense and Veterans'
4 Services, Namely, a New Civilian
5 Position of Deputy Commissioner.
6

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

9 5 MRSA §952, sub-§1, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:

10 A-1. Deputy Commissioner, when the Deputy Adju-
11 tant General is a part-time position;

2 The position of Deputy Adjutant General as a mil-
3 itary position is authorized to be full or part time.
4 It is currently being filled on a part-time basis.
5 The incumbent lends his ample skills and qualifica-
6 tions to the job, but is only able to serve on a lim-
7 ited basis. The Department of Defense and Veterans'
8 Services would prefer a person of proven military
9 caliber and experience serving in the Deputy Adjutant
10 General's slot part time, rather than to seek another
11 lesser qualified candidate, with the major criteria
12 being that he has the flexibility to leave the civil-
13 ian job market. Disallowing part-time military per-
14 sons' service in this prestigious position, in a sys-
15 tem where the majority of the Maine Army and Air Na-
16 tional Guard members are part time, would appear to
17 disadvantage part-time advancement opportunities.

18 The Maine National Guard's commitment on training
19 for the total force mission, where Maine National
20 Guard forces are directly combined with active compo-
21 nent forces upon mobilization, is demanding an ever
22 increasing time commitment from the Deputy Adjutant
23 General and the respective Chiefs of Staff of the
24 Maine Army and Air National Guard. The predominant
25 emphasis on the federal mission leaves little time
26 for the administrative state-oriented workload.

27 The Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness, the
28 Department of Defense and Veterans' Services and the
29 Military Bureau presently cannot compete with the
30 federal demands on the Deputy Adjutant General's
31 time, being a part-time commander. A deputy commis-
32 sioner should be created to oversee department man-
33 agement functions. Funding for the deputy commis-
34 sioner's position could be derived from the vacant
35 Deputy Adjutant General's full-time office. The time
36 constraints of the part-time general's position
37 leaves excess funding for the employment of new ci-
38 vilian positions that may provide full-time support
39 for departmental management.