

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2306

H.P. 1677 House of Representatives, February 19, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative LOOK of Jonesboro.

Cosponsored by Senator RANDALL of Washington,
Representatives TAMMARO of Baileyville and SHELTRA of
Biddeford:

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT to Amend the Requirement that
2 Counties Contribute to the Support of the
3 Superior Courts and the Supreme Judicial
4 Court.
5

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

8 Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §115, first ¶, as amended by PL
9 1981, c. 647, §1, is further amended to read:

1 In each county, the place for holding court shall
2 be located in a building designated by the Chief
3 Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or his designee,
4 who, with the advice and approval of the Bureau of
5 Public Improvements, is empowered to negotiate, on
6 behalf of the State, the leases, contracts and other
7 arrangements he considers necessary, within the limits
8 of appropriations and other funds available to the
9 Supreme Judicial and Superior Courts, to provide
10 suitable quarters, adequately furnished and equipped,
11 for the Supreme Judicial or Superior Court in each
12 county. The county commissioners in each county shall
13 continue to provide for the use of the Supreme
14 Judicial and Superior Courts such quarters,
15 facilities, and furnishings and equipment in
16 existing county buildings as were in use on January 1,
17 1976, without charge.

18 Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §118, as enacted by PL 1975, c.
19 383, §4, is amended to read:

20 §118. Support from counties

21 Effective July 1, 1976, each county shall pay
22 annually to the State for the support of the Supreme
23 Judicial and Superior Courts an amount equal to 10% of
24 the direct expenditures by that county during the
25 calendar year 1975 for the support of the Superior and
26 Supreme Judicial Courts in all categories of expense
27 assumed by the State as of July 1, 1976, less the
28 amount received by that county from fines, fees,
29 forfeitures and other revenues from the District,
30 Superior and Supreme Judicial Courts during 1975. Such
31 payments shall be made in equal semiannual
32 installments on July 1st and January 1st of each year.
33 The amount of direct expenditures by the counties
34 during the year 1975 shall be fixed and confirmed by
35 the Treasurer of State.

36 STATEMENT OF FACT

37 This bill relieves counties of some of the burden
38 of providing funds for the administrative costs of the

1 Superior Courts and the Supreme Judicial Court by
2 requiring a county to pay only 10% of its direct
3 expenditures, less income received as fines and other
4 revenue from the courts. The bill also removes the
5 requirement that counties furnish equipment for those
6 courts.

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