MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 27

S.P. 52

In Senate, January 26, 1989

Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative GARLAND of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Revise the Negotiable Checks and Money Orders Law.



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

- 32 MRSA §891, sub-§§4 and 5, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 767, §30, are amended to read:
- 4. Temporary certificate. Any person filing the maximum bond and-paying the maximum-biennial-license fee may issue to a new agent a temporary certificate in a form approved by the superintendent. Such The temporary certificate shall authorize the new agent to act until the superintendent grants a certificate or refuses such a certificate. The principal dealer, on or before the 15th day of the first month of each calendar quarter, shall file with the superintendent a statement listing the names and business addresses, together with such other information as the superintendent may require, of new agents appointed during the previous calendar quarter and pay the appropriate fee.
- 5. Biennial fee. There shall be a fee of \$200 for the biennial <u>principal dealer</u> certificate payable to the superintendent and \$6 <u>\$20</u> for each agent listed therein <u>on</u> or fer any-addition-thereto, provided that the total biennial fee shall not exceed <u>\$600</u> and such added to the certificate. These fees shall be credited and used as provided in Title 9-B, section 214.

STATEMENT OF FACT

There have been significant changes in the licensing procedures of organizations authorized to engage in the business of selling, issuing or registering checks or money orders in the State. The Bureau of Banking has established a computerized licensing program which expedites this process and provides for more accurate records of these activities.

There has been a considerable increase in activity, particularly in the area of money order agents licensing. Presently, about 6 dealers and 151 agents are licensed through the bureau. It has become apparent that fees established in 1975 for the issuance of agents' licenses have not kept pace with the increased cost of administering the licensing process or the increased activity. This bill increases the biennial license fee for agents from \$6 to \$20 and eliminates the ceiling of \$600 for total biennial fees. Due to the limited number of dealers licensed with the bureau, the licensing fee of \$200 biennially is adequate.