

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 582

H.P. 417

House of Representatives, March 6, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MARSH of West Gardiner.

Cosponsored by Representative BUTLAND of Cumberland, Senator CLARK of Cumberland and Representative HASTINGS of Fryeburg.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Shoplifters.



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

3 **17 MRSA §3521**, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 543, is amended to
read:

5

7 **§3521. Detention of shoplifters**

7

9 A store owner, manager or supervisor, or that person's
designee, may detain on the premises in a reasonable manner and
for a period of time not to exceed 1/2 hour any person he has for
11 whom there is probable cause to believe is unlawfully concealing
merchandise. The purposes of such detention shall be: To require
13 the person being detained to ~~identify--himself~~ provide
identification; to verify such the identification; to inform a
15 law enforcement officer of the detention and to surrender such
that person to ~~said~~ the officer; and when the detained person is
17 a minor, to inform a law enforcement officer or the parents or
guardian of ~~said~~ the minor of the detention and to surrender ~~him~~
19 the minor to the person so informed.

21

Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, municipal or state police
officer, if he the officer has probable cause to believe that a
23 person has unlawfully concealed merchandise, may arrest such that
person without a warrant, whether or not such the concealment was
25 committed in ~~his~~ the officer's presence.

27

STATEMENT OF FACT

29

This bill provides that a store owner, manager or
31 supervisor, or that person's designee, may detain a person
suspected of shoplifting on the premises in a reasonable manner
33 for up to 30 minutes.