

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 905, L.D. 1262, Bill, "An Act to Revise the Medical Examiner Act"

Amend the bill in section 8 in that part designated "§3034." by striking out all of subsection 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'1. Files; information. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner shall maintain files, sufficient for the purpose of identification, on missing persons when there is reason to suspect that those persons may not be found alive. These files may include such material as medical and dental records and specimens, details of personal property and physical appearance, samples of hair, fingerprints and specimens that may be useful for identification. The Chief Medical Examiner may require hospitals, physicians, dentists and other medical institutions and practitioners to provide information, samples and specimens. Hospitals, physicians, dentists, institutions and practitioners who provide this information shall not be criminally nor civilly responsible for the provision of that requested material or information or for otherwise cooperating with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.'

Further amend the bill by inserting before the statement of fact the following:

'Sec. 9. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1989-90 1990-91

ATTORNEY GENERAL,
DEPARTMENT OF THE

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**Office of
Chief Medical Examiner**

All Other	\$17,588	\$23,450
Capital Expenditures	4,000	

Provides funds for increased fees to nonsalaried medical examiners, scene visits and fees relative to specimens. Capital expenditures are needed to fulfill the provisions relating to missing persons.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
TOTAL**

<u>\$21,588</u>	<u>\$23,450'</u>
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STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment narrows the focus of the requirement of maintaining files on missing persons to limit the responsibility of the State to reasonable bounds.

The statement of fact on the original bill contained several errors and should have indicated that section 7 permits the use of autopsy physicians who are not pathologists. The Chief Medical Examiner will continue to exercise control over who will perform the autopsy in every case.

This amendment adds an appropriation.

Reported by the Committee on Human Resouces
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House
6/16/89 (Filing No. H-584)