

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1492

(Filing No. H- 380)

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1070, L.D. 1492, Bill, "An Act Concerning the Public Advocate"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'35-A MRSA §1701, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 141, Pt. A, §6, is amended to read:

1. Appointment of the Public Advocate. The Public Advocate shall be appointed by the Governor to a 2-year term, beginning with the Governor's term in 1991, and shall be subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public utilities and to confirmation by the Legislature,--and, The Public Advocate shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Any vacancy shall be filled by similar appointment. The Public Advocate may be reappointed.

FISCAL NOTE

The costs associated with reviewing the nomination of the Public Advocate every 2 years can be absorbed within the Legislature's existing budget.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment provides that the Public Advocate shall be appointed by the Governor to a 2-year term. The Public Advocate is subject to reappointment. The Public Advocate will continue to be reviewed by the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and confirmed by the Legislature. The purpose of this amendment is to ensure that every Public Advocate will be aware of the public or the consumer's interest and will be subject to scrutiny every 2 years from the time of confirmation.