

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

12

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HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1008, L.D. 1354, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts"

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Amend the amendment in Part B by striking out all of sections 1 to 5.

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Further amend the amendment in Part B in section 8 in paragraph A in the 5th line (page 6, line 49 in amendment) by striking out the following: "until January 1, 1995 and 26 thereafter"

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Further amend the amendment in Part B by striking out all of sections 10, 11, 17 to 25, 28, 31, 32, 33 and 34.

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Further amend the amendment in Part B in section 35 by striking out all of section 5 and inserting in its place the following:

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**'Sec. 5. Family court project continuation and expansion.** The family court project established pursuant to Public Law 1989, chapter 891, Part A, section 12 may be continued and expanded into other geographic areas with large numbers of family law cases as well as in other areas determined appropriate. The current jurisdiction of the Superior Court, District Court and Administrative Court is not altered to ensure access. In those areas in which the family court project exists or into which the project is expanded, it must be structured as the Family Court Division of the District Court, Superior Court and Administrative Court. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court shall

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HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1008,  
L.D. 1354

2 designate one judge or justice from the Superior Court, District  
3 Court or Administrative Court to direct the project. The Chief  
4 Justice or the designated judge or justice shall convene a  
5 preliminary planning committee on the development of a  
6 nonadversarial administrative forum that includes social services  
7 for family matters. The designated judge or justice shall report  
8 to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary by January 15, 1994  
9 1995, and annually thereafter, and shall make a final report  
10 concerning the family court project by January 15, 1999.'

11 Further amend the amendment in Part B by striking out all of  
12 sections 37, 38 and 40.

13 Further amend the amendment in Part B by renumbering the  
14 sections to read consecutively.

15 Further amend the amendment by striking out all of Part D.

16 Further amend the amendment by striking out all of the  
17 fiscal note and inserting in its place the following:  
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#### 19 FISCAL NOTE

20 The courts and state agencies may incur additional costs to  
21 pay for interpreters in certain proceedings. These additional  
22 costs can be absorbed by the respective agencies utilizing  
23 existing budgeted resources.

24 The additional costs to develop a fact sheet for victims  
25 with information about the advocate and compensations programs  
26 can be absorbed by the Department of the Attorney General  
27 utilizing existing budgeted resources.

28 The Judicial Department will incur some minor additional  
29 costs to develop a plan to provide for the equalization of  
30 salaries of certain judges and justices and provide statements of  
31 fiscal effect for legislation and executive orders affecting the  
32 judicial system. These costs can be absorbed within the  
33 department's existing budgeted resources.

34 The additional costs to hold the interbranch forums at least  
35 annually can be absorbed by the Legislature, the Judicial  
36 Department and the Executive Department utilizing existing  
37 budgeted resources.  
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HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1008,  
L.D. 1354

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This amendment deletes from the committee amendment all those changes that proposed to abolish the Administrative Court system.

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SPONSORED BY:

*George J. Kerr*

(Representative KERE)

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TOWN: Old Orchard Beach

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**HOUSE AMENDMENT**