

L.D. 1477 R. of S. 2 (Filing No. S- 320) 4 6 STATE OF MAINE SENATE 8 **116TH LEGISLATURE** FIRST REGULAR SESSION 10 12 SENATE AMENDMENT "H" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 478, L.D. 1477, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of 14 the Special Commission on Electoral Practices" 16 Amend the amendment by striking out all of sections 35 and 18 40. 20 Further amend the amendment in section 43 in that part designated "§737-A." in subsection 9 in the last line (page 17, 22 line 21 in amendment) by striking out the following: "court" and inserting in its place the following: 'Commission on Governmental 24 Ethics and Election Practices' 26 Further amend the amendment in section 43 in that part designated "<u>\$737-A.</u>" in subsection 10 in the first paragraph in 28 the first line (page 17, line 23 in amendment) by striking out the following: "court" and inserting in its place the 30 '<u>Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election</u> following: Practices' 32 Further amend the amendment in section 43 in that part 34 designated "§737-A." in subsection 10 in the 4th line (page 17, line 26 in amendment) by striking out the following: "clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court" and inserting in its place the 36 following: 'Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election 38 Practices' 40 Further amend the amendment in section 43 in that part designated "§737-A." in subsection 10 by striking out all of the 42 blocked paragraph (page 17, lines 28 to 31 in amendment) 44 Further amend the amendment in section 44 in that part designated "§738." in the first paragraph in the last 2 lines 46 (page 18, lines 3 and 4 in amendment) by striking out the

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SENATE AMENDMENT

SENATE AMENDMENT "H" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 478, L.D. 1477

following: "Commission--on--Govornmental--Ethics---and--Election Practices-as-provided-under-Article-IV Supreme Judicial Court." and inserting in its place the following: 'Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices as provided under Article IV.'

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of sections 45 and 46.

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R.of S.

Further amend the amendment by renumbering the sections to read consecutively.

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of the fiscal note and inserting in its place the following:

'FISCAL NOTE

1993-94

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

General Fund

\$63,000

The Department of the Secretary of State will require an additional General Fund appropriation of \$63,000 in fiscal year 1993-94 for providing municipalities with sufficient metal boxes to place the used ballots in. This appropriation is based on the purchase and distribution of approximately 3,000 boxes to 676 municipalities at a cost of \$21 apiece.

32 This bill increases the class of crime for several offenses, resulting in additional costs to state and county correctional 34 facilities.

Sentences of more than 9 months for Class B crimes must be served in a state correctional institution. The cost to the State per sentence is \$84,563 based upon an average length of stay of 3 years and 6 months. The State also must reimburse counties for sentences served in county jails of 9 months or less for this new crime pursuant to the Communities Corrections Act.

Sentences of more than 9 months for Class C crimes must be served in a state correctional institution. The cost to the State per sentence is \$42,050 based upon an average length of stay of one year and 9 months. The State also must reimburse counties for sentences served in county jails of 9 months or less for this new crime pursuant to the Communities Corrections Act.

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SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 478, L.D. 1477

Sentences imposed for Class D offenses must be served in a county jail. The average cost per sentence for a Class D crime is \$7,439 based upon an average length of stay of 119 days. The additional cost to the counties for the housing of each offender sentenced under this new crime will not require reimbursement by the State.

8 The Judicial Department may require additional General Fund appropriations to cover increased indigent defense costs. The 10 collection of additional fines may increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

The additional costs to investigate and prosecute alleged violations of the election laws can be absorbed by the Department of the Attorney General utilizing existing budgeted resources.

The State Police can absorb within existing budgeted resources the costs associated with storing and securing ballots for recounts.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment removes those provisions of the committee amendment that allow disputed elections for state offices to be determined by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

(Senator CONLEY)

COUNTY: Cumberland

SPONSORED BY:

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SENATE AMENDMENT