

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 869

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H.P. 646

House of Representatives, March 21, 1995

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### **An Act to Revise Reapportionment Guidelines.**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative HEESCHEN of Wilton.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAILEY of Township 27, GWADOSKY of Fairfield,  
MERES of Norridgewock, STROUT of Corinth, WINN of Glenburn, Senators: BENOIT of  
Franklin, BUSTIN of Kennebec, McCORMICK of Kennebec.

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

2           **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1206, first ¶,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
4           628, §2, is amended to read:

6           ~~The state legislative districts established in this chapter~~  
7           ~~must be reapportioned pursuant to the Constitution of Maine,~~  
8           ~~Article IV, Part Third, Section 1-A, and congressional~~  
9           ~~Congressional districts must be reapportioned as follows.~~

10           **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1206-A** is enacted to read:

12           **§1206-A. Reapportionment of state legislative districts**

14           The state legislative districts established in this chapter  
15           must be reapportioned pursuant to the Constitution of Maine,  
16           Article IV, Part First, Section 2; Article IV, Part Second,  
17           Section 2; Article IV, Part Third, Section 1-A; and this  
18           section. When reapportioning districts, where possible, the  
19           Legislative Apportionment Commission shall attempt to form  
20           functionally contiguous and compact territories. For purposes of  
21           this section, a "functionally contiguous and compact territory"  
22           is one that facilitates representation by minimizing impediments  
23           to travel within the district. Impediments to travel include,  
24           but are not limited to, physical features like mountains, rivers  
25           and discontinued roads or lack of roads. The commission shall  
26           recognize that all political subdivision boundaries are not of  
27           equal importance.

30   **STATEMENT OF FACT**

32           This bill directs the Legislative Apportionment Commission  
33           to consider certain geographic guidelines when reapportioning  
34           state legislative districts. The guidelines are intended to  
35           supplement the Constitution of Maine.  
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