

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1160

H.P. 829

House of Representatives, April 4, 1995

**An Act to Authorize the Maine Principals' Association to Govern
Official Refereeing and Umpiring of Secondary School Athletic Contests.**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLUKEY of Houlton, DONNELLY of Presque Isle,
GUERRETTE of Pittston, JOY of Crystal, KNEELAND of Easton, MADORE of Augusta,
MAYO of Bath, McALEVEY of Waterboro, POIRIER of Saco, REED of Dexter, TRUE of
Fryeburg.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this Act authorizes the Maine Principals' Association to establish uniform standards for the provision of umpiring and refereeing services for athletic contests between secondary schools; and

Whereas, it would be beneficial to the people of this State that this Act take effect on August 31, 1995; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13803 is enacted to read:

§13803. Standards for umpiring and refereeing services

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Contest" means any athletic event involving competition between 2 or more individuals or teams composed of students of any secondary school in the State, including without limitation any football, basketball, hockey, soccer, baseball, lacrosse or tennis game.

B. "Official" means any person acting as a neutral arbiter for the purpose of calling fouls, penalties, balls, strikes and out-of-bounds calls or enforcing any rules of conduct or scoring in connection with any contest, including without limitation any umpire, referee or linesman.

C. "Officiating" means the acts of any official with reference to a contest.

2. Standards. The Maine Principals' Association shall establish standards governing the training, certification, evaluation, assignment, discipline and compensation of all officials.

3. Penalties. A person officiating or procuring the services of an official in violation of any standard established

2 under subsection 2 is subject to penalties as may be determined
3 by the Maine Principals' Association, including without
4 limitation the forfeiture of any contest or contests and the
5 assessment of monetary fines. The Maine Principals' Association
6 shall promulgate a schedule of fines and provide that fines be
7 paid into a fund established for the purpose of the promotion and
8 betterment of secondary school athletics in the State.

9 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
10 preamble, this Act takes effect August 31, 1995.
11

12 13 14 STATEMENT OF FACT

15 This bill directs the Maine Principals' Association to
16 establish standards for the provision of umpiring and refereeing
17 services for athletic contests between secondary schools. The
18 bill also directs the association to determine penalties for
19 violations of these standards.
20