

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1185

H.P. 854

House of Representatives, April 4, 1995

**An Act to Give the Washington County Legislative Delegation a Role in
the County Budget Process.**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BUNKER of Kossuth Township.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAILEY of Township 27, LAYTON of Cherryfield, LOOK
of Jonesboro, Senator: GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock.

2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24
26
28
30
32
34
36
38
40
42
44
46
48

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §899-A is enacted to read:

§899-A. Review

The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over county government matters may review the operation of the budget committee before February 1, 1997 and, if it determines necessary, introduce legislation to amend or repeal this article. If the committee fails to act, this article continues in effect.

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §900, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 777, §1 and PL 1993, c. 582, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§900. Budget; appropriations; approval

Notwithstanding sections 2, 701 and 702, in Washington County the county commissioners may appropriate money, according to a budget that must be approved by a majority of the Washington County legislative delegation. For the purposes of this article, the Washington County legislative delegation includes any member of the State Senate or House of Representatives whose district encompasses any part of Washington County.

Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §§900-C and 900-D, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 777, §1, are amended to read:

§900-C. Public hearing

The Washington County commissioners shall hold one or more public hearings on the budget estimate before October 1st and an informational meeting, in conjunction with the budget advisory committee, with the Washington County legislative delegation before ~~December-1st~~ November 15th.

§900-D. Budget estimate; submission to advisory committee; legislative delegation

The Washington County commissioners shall submit a budget estimate to the budget advisory committee no later than October 1st for the coming year. The budget advisory committee shall review the budget estimate and make recommendations to the commissioners before November 15th 1st. The county commissioners shall ~~act-on-the-budget-in-a-timely-fashion-and,-in-any-event,-not-later-than-December-15th-of-the-budget-year~~ finalize budget recommendations and by December 1st submit the recommendations to

2 the Washington County legislative delegation for final approval.
3 By December 15th, the county legislative delegation may change or
4 alter specific line categories in the budget recommendations
5 before approving the budget by majority vote of the entire
6 delegation.

8 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

10 Under current law the Washington County budget is finalized
11 by the county commissioners following input from the county
12 budget advisory committee and the county legislative delegation.
13 This bill requires the county commissioners to present budget
14 recommendations to the county legislative delegation following
15 input from the budget advisory committee. The legislative
16 delegation has final authority for approval of the county budget.