MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1661

H.P. 1211

House of Representatives, January 9, 1996

An Act to Increase the Penalty for Criminal Restraint of a Young Child or a Dependent Person.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich. Cosponsored by Senator SMALL of Sagadahoc and

Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, BUCK of Yarmouth, ETNIER of Harpswell, JOHNSON of South Portland, JOYCE of Biddeford, KILKELLY of Wiscasset, LINDAHL of Northport, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth, MAYO of Bath, TAYLOR of Cumberland,

WATSON of Farmingdale.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §302, sub-§3, as repealed and replaced by I 1979, c. 512, §25, is amended to read:
3. Criminal restraint is a Class D crime except that it; a Class C crime if the person restrained has in fact not attained years of age or is a dependent person, as defined by section 555.
STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill changes the penalty for criminal restraint of a child under age 6 or a dependent person from a Class D crime to a Class C crime. The increase in penalty allows law enforcement officers to arrest the offender rather than issue a summons.

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