

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R.D.B.

L.D. 1868

DATE: 03/29/96

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MAJORITY
JUDICIARY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1360, L.D. 1868, Bill, "An Act to Prohibit the Photographing or Videotaping of Jury Deliberations"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§122." in the indented paragraph in the first line (page 1, line 39 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "viewing" and inserting in its place the following: 'transmittal'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§122." in the indented paragraph in the last 2 lines (page 1, lines 43 and 44 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "A person who violates this section is guilty of a Class E crime."

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment makes two changes to the bill. First, it eliminates the prohibition on viewing jury meetings and deliberations that are recorded or transmitted by electronic means. As written, the bill would have criminalized the act of watching a television program in which jury deliberations were broadcast. "Transmittal" by electronic means of jury meetings or deliberations is added to the bill to ensure that live broadcasts and closed-circuit viewings are prohibited along with recordings.

Second, this amendment deletes the criminal penalty.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT