

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 31

S.P. 33

In Senate, January 9, 1997

**An Act to Require That a Vacancy in the Office of Sheriff Be Filled by
an Appointee from the Same Political Party.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative BUNKER of Kossuth Township and
Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §371-B** is enacted to read:

6 **§371-B. Vacancies**

8 Vacancies in the office of sheriff caused by death,
10 resignation, removal from the county, permanent incapacity or any
12 other reason must be filled as provided in the Constitution of
14 Maine. In the case of a vacancy in the term of a sheriff who was
16 nominated by primary election before the general election, the
18 sheriff appointed by the Governor to fill the vacancy until a
20 successor is chosen at election must be enrolled in the same
22 political party as the sheriff whose term is vacant. In making
24 the appointment, the Governor shall choose from any
26 recommendations submitted to the Governor by the county committee
of the political party from which the appointment is made.

20 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill provides that in the case of a vacancy in the term
24 of a sheriff who was nominated by primary election before the
26 general election, the sheriff appointed by the Governor to fill
the vacancy until a successor is chosen at election must be
enrolled in the same political party as the sheriff whose term is
vacant.