

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 132

H.P. 108

House of Representatives, January 14, 1997

An Act to Prohibit the Plea Bargaining of Child Sex Abuse Cases.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative JONES of Pittsfield. (By Request)
Cosponsored by Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, STEDMAN of Hartland, TOBIN of
Dexter, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WHEELER of Bridgewater.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §258** is enacted to read:

6 **§258. Plea agreements prohibited**

8 Notwithstanding the Maine Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rules
10 11 and 11A, an attorney for the State may not, for the purpose of
12 entering into a plea agreement with a defendant charged with
committing a sexual act or sexual contact as defined in section
251, reduce such a charge to a lesser offense than the offense
originally charged, when the victim of that offense is a minor.

14 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill prohibits a prosecutor from plea bargaining with a
18 defendant charged with a sex offense when the victim is a minor.