

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

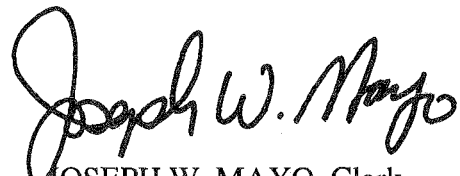
No. 444

H.P. 322

House of Representatives, January 23, 1997

An Act to Establish the Maximum and Minimum Number of Grand Jurors to Be Summoned and Impaneled.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative POVICH of Ellsworth.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §1261** is enacted to read:

6 **§1261. Grand jurors**

8 The grand jury consists of not less than 13 nor more than 23
10 jurors and a sufficient number of legally qualified persons must
12 be summoned to meet this requirement.

14 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill mandates that the grand jury consist of not less
18 than 13 nor more than 23 jurors. The bill contains the same
20 language as the Maine Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule 6(a).
22 This bill is in response to a memo from the Chief Justice of the
24 Superior Court, dated February 16, 1996, entitled "Jury
Management" which, in part, limited the maximum grand jurors to
be impaneled to 16. The memo also provided that a sufficient
number of alternates be on call to ensure that 16 jurors would
always be sitting. This bill reverts to the procedure that was
in place prior to February 1996.