

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

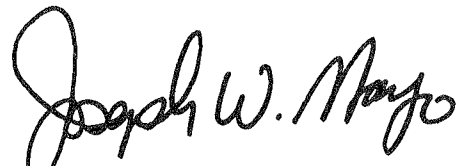
No. 1537

H.P. 1094

House of Representatives, March 18, 1997

An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Notaries Public.

Submitted by the Department of the Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.

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

3 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §955-B**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 485, §1, is
4 further amended to read:

5 **§955-B. Maintenance of records**

6 ~~The Secretary of State shall recommend that every~~ Every
7 notary public shall keep and maintain records of all notarial
8 acts performed. The notary shall safeguard and retain exclusive
9 custody of these records. The notary may not surrender the
10 records to another notary or to an employer. The records may be
11 inspected in the notary's presence by any individual whose
12 identity is personally known to the notary or is proven on the
13 basis of satisfactory evidence and who specifies the notarial act
14 to be examined.
15

16 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §959**, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 465, §5, is
17 amended to read:

18 **§959. Grandfather clause; seal; records**

19 ~~The requirements~~ requirement to keep a seal under section
20 951 ~~and records under section 955-B~~ is not in force for
21 notaries who are commissioned before November 1, 1991. The
22 requirement to keep records under section 955-B is not in force
23 for notaries who are commissioned before November 1, 1997. If
24 the commissions are renewed, the requirements of those sections
25 take effect upon renewal.
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28

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill requires notaries to maintain records of all
31 notarial acts performed. The bill also adds a grandfather clause
32 for notaries commissioned before November 1, 1997.
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