MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1655

S.P. 536

In Senate, March 25, 1997

An Act to Prohibit Fund-raising Efforts and Certain Contributions to Legislators while the Legislature is in Session.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator AMERO of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative BUCK of Yarmouth and
Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, BENNETT of Oxford, CAREY of Kennebec,
CLEVELAND of Androscoggin, FERGUSON of Oxford, HARRIMAN of Cumberland,
NUTTING of Androscoggin, Representative: SPEAR of Nobleboro.

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §1015, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Campaign contribution solicitation prohibited. A member of the Legislature or the staff or agent of a member may not solicit, directly or indirectly, whether through a political action committee, political committee, political party or otherwise, and a person registered as a lobbyist, lobbyist associate or as a lobbyist employer may not give, directly or indirectly, a contribution, as defined in Title 21-A, section 1012, subsection 2, during any period of time in which the Legislature is convened, without final adjournment. This prohibition does not apply to solicitations for bona fide social events hosted for nonpartisan purposes. A person who violates this subsection is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000, payable to the State. This penalty is recoverable in a civil action.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits members of the Legislature from soliciting and lobbyists, lobbyist associates and their employers from making campaign contributions during a legislative session, except for solicitation for bona fide social events hosted for nonpartisan purposes.