MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

Legislative Document

No. 1992

H.P. 1428

House of Representatives, January 14, 1998

An Act Relating to Forfeited Firearms.

Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and ordered printed.

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative POVICH of Ellsworth.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as f)v the	e People	of the	State	Of	Maine	as	tollows
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Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §3503-A, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 254, §2,
is amended to read:

§3503-A. Disposal of firearms and ammunition

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or Title 15, chapter 517, a police department or other law enforcement agency retaining firearms and ammunition covered by this chapter or Title 15, chapter 517 may auction the firearms to federally-licensed federally licensed firearms' dealers, use the firearms and ammunition for training purposes or destroy the firearms and ammunition.

The Attorney General may adopt or amend rules pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act governing the sale, use and disposal of firearms and ammunition under this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes law enforcement agencies to auction firearms they have received under the forfeiture statute, Title 15, chapter 517, to federally licensed firearms' dealers. The bill similarly authorizes the Attorney General to adopt and amend rules pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, as the Attorney General considers necessary, governing the sale, use and disposal of abandoned and forfeited firearms and ammunition by law enforcement agencies.