

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

Legislative Document

No. 2278

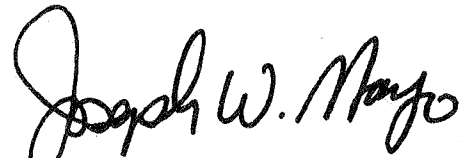
H.P. 1648

House of Representatives, March 18, 1998

**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Minority of the Joint
Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy Arising from its
Government Evaluation Act Review of the Office of the Public Advocate.**

(EMERGENCY)

Reported by the Minority from the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy
pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 955, subsection 4.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4 Whereas, the Office of the Public Advocate needs immediate
6 supplemental funding to support its current case load and
obligations; and

8 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
10 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
12 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore,

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

16 **Sec. 1. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from
18 Other Special Revenue to carry out the purposes of this Act.

20		1997-98	1998-99
22	EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT		
24	Public Advocate		
26	Personal Services	\$13,000	\$30,000
28	All Other		350,000
30	Provides for the allocation		
32	of funds from the Public		
34	Advocate Regulatory Fund to		
36	pay salary increases for the		
38	Public Advocate and the		
40	Public Advocate's staff and		
42	to cover costs of consultants		
44	and expert witnesses to		
46	handle cases involving		
48	electric industry		
	restructuring and Maine		
	Yankee Nuclear Power Plant		
	decommissioning.		
44	EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT		
46	TOTAL	<u>\$13,000</u>	<u>\$380,000</u>

48 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

2

SUMMARY

4

6 This bill provides supplemental funding to the Office of the
8 Public Advocate to fund salary increases for the Public Advocate
10 and the Public Advocate's staff and to cover costs of consultants
12 and expert witnesses to handle cases at the Public Utilities
 Commission involving electric industry restructuring and at the
 Public Utilities Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory
 Commission involving issues related to Maine Yankee Nuclear Power
 Plant decommissioning.