

# 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)

2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12  
14  
16  
18  
20  
22  
24  
26  
28  
30  
32  
34  
36  
38  
40  
42  
44  
46  
48  
50

L.D. 231

DATE: 3-25-99

(Filing No. H-100 )

**MINORITY  
JUDICIARY**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 169, L.D. 231, Bill, "An Act to Initiate Covenant Marriage in the State"

Amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

The requirement that municipalities modify their marriage license procedures to accommodate covenant marriage represents a state mandate pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. The additional local costs are not expected to be significant. Unless General Fund appropriations are provided to fund at least 90% of the additional costs or a Mandate Preamble is amended to the bill and two-thirds of the members of each House vote to exempt this mandate from the funding requirement, the municipalities may not be required to implement these changes.

This bill may decrease the number of divorce cases filed in the court system, however, those divorce cases that are filed under a covenant marriage may be more complicated and require additional court time. The net effect on the Judicial Department's workload and administrative costs can not be determined at this time. The net effect on the collection of filing fees is likely to be insignificant.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. This amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**