

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 245

S.P. 106

In Senate, January 11, 1999

An Act to Abolish Kennebec County as a Legal Entity.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CAREY of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative: GAGNON of Waterville.

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

4 **CONCEPT DRAFT**
6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.
10 This bill seeks to abolish Kennebec County as a legal entity. It
reassigns the functions, duties and powers of several county
officials and entities as follows.

12 1. It reassigns the Registrar of Deeds to the Maine State
Archives, office of the Secretary of State.

14 2. It reassigns the Registrar of Probate to the state court
16 system.

18 3. It reassigns the District Attorney to the Office of the
Attorney General.

20 4. It reassigns the Kennebec County Sheriff to the
22 Department of Public Safety.

24 5. It reassigns the Kennebec County Jail to the Department
of Corrections.

26 6. It reassigns the probate judge to the state court system,
28 to be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate
to the full-time position of probate judge for the former
30 Kennebec County district; the probate judge may also be directed
to preside over Juvenile Court in the former Kennebec County.

32 7. The bill abolishes the position of Kennebec County
34 Treasurer.

36 8. It abolishes the position of Kennebec County
Commissioner for each commissioner district.

38 9. The bill transfers title to all Kennebec County
40 property, including land, buildings and fixtures, to the State.

42 10. It requires that the State assume all debts and
liabilities of Kennebec County.

44 11. The bill proposes an effective date of January 1, 2000.