

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 416

S.P. 147

In Senate, January 14, 1999

An Act to Ensure the Maintenance, Protection and Repair of Veterans' Graves, Headstones, Monuments and Markers.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs 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 LIBBY of York.
Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 13 MRSA §1101**, as amended by PL 1977, c. 255, §1, is
further amended to read:

6 **§1101. Maintenance and repairs; municipality**

8 In any ancient or public burying ground in which any
10 Revolutionary soldiers or sailors or soldier or sailor who served
in the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps in any war is
12 buried, the ~~town~~ municipality in which ~~said that~~ burying ground
is located shall keep in good condition and repair, all graves,
14 headstones, monuments or markers designating the burial place of
~~said those~~ Revolutionary soldiers or sailors or soldier or sailor
who served in the United States Army, Navy or Marine Corps in any
16 war and shall keep the grass suitably cut and trimmed on ~~such~~
those graves during the summer season. ~~Towns~~ Municipalities may
18 raise and appropriate money for such purposes. Each ~~said--town~~
~~shall-be-liable~~ municipality is subject to a penalty mandatory
20 forfeiture of not-more-than-\$100 \$200 for neglect to keep in good
condition and repair all such graves, headstones, monuments and
22 markers or failing to keep the grass suitably cut and trimmed on
~~said those~~ graves.

24
26 **SUMMARY**

28 Current law requires towns to maintain the graves and
30 markers of any Revolutionary War soldiers or sailors or any
soldiers or sailors who were in the United States Army, Navy or
32 Marines and who served in a war and are buried in graveyards in
that town. A town that fails to do so may be penalized up to
\$100.

34 This bill increases the fine to \$200 and makes it mandatory.