MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 616

H.P. 453

House of Representatives, January 21, 1999

An Act Relating to the Forfeiture of Bail.

Reported by Representative POVICH for the Criminal Law Advisory Commission pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 1354, subsection 2.

Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 218.

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §1094, first ¶, as amended by PL 1997, c. 543, §21, is further amended to read:

When defendant who has been admitted to either preconviction or post-conviction bail in a criminal case fails to appear as required or has violated the conditions of release, the court shall declare a forfeiture of the bail. The obligation of the defendant and any sureties may be enforced in such manner as Supreme Judicial Court shall by rule provide accordance with section 224-A. The rules adopted by the Supreme Judicial Court must provide for notice to the defendant and any sureties of the consequences of failure to comply with the conditions of bail. The filing of a motion to declare a forfeiture of the bail or an oral motion made on the record by the attorney for the State invalidates for purposes of forfeiture any subsequent transfer or assignment of the bail pending further order of the court.

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SUMMARY 22

This bill prevents a defendant from avoiding forfeiture of money bail by assigning or transferring it prior to court action 26 on the pending motion for default.