

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 922

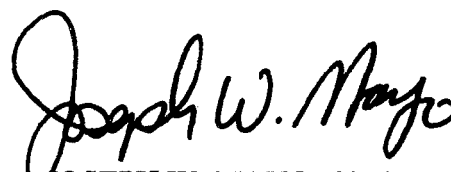
H.P. 666

House of Representatives, February 2, 1999

An Act to Provide Computers for Use in the Legislature.

(EMERGENCY)

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GERRY of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Senator RAND of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, LaVERDIERE of
Wilton, McDONOUGH of Portland, MENDROS of Lewiston, RICHARDSON of Brunswick,
Senator: PINGREE of Knox.

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

4
6 Whereas, this Act is necessary as an emergency measure to
allow the Legislative Council to approve and implement a plan to
provide an automated, integrated computer system for managing
8 legislative activity and information before the start of the
Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature; and

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

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

18 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §162, sub-§11, as repealed and replaced by PL**
20 **1973, c. 590, §4, is amended to read:**

22 11. **Legislative equipment and supplies.** To provide
necessary furniture, stationery and other supplies and equipment
24 for the use of the members, committees, agencies and offices of
the Legislature. The Legislative Council shall approve and
26 implement by July 1, 1999 a plan to provide an automated,
integrated computer system for managing legislative activity and
28 information. Information made available through this system must
be in a format compatible with other major computer systems in
30 State Government. To the extent feasible, the plan must include
provisions for:

32 A. Stationary or portable computer hardware for each
34 member of the Legislature; and

36 B. Development of computer software to allow members,
committees and staff immediate access to all Acts of the
38 Legislature, pending legislation and amendments that are not
confidential pursuant to law or policy of the Legislature,
40 status of pending legislation, the Maine Revised Statutes
and legislative committee schedules;

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

46
48 **SUMMARY**

50 This bill requires the Legislative Council to implement
provisions for a computerization plan by July 1, 1999 for the
Legislature.