

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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11
R.S.

L.D. 1588

DATE: 5-11-99

(Filing No. H-535)

2
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6
8
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12
14
16
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22
24
26
28
30
32
34
36
38
40
42
44
46
48
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CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1129, L.D. 1588, Bill, "An Act to Increase the Penalties for Persons in Possession of Methamphetamine in Conformity with the Penalties for Similarly Dangerous Drugs"

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

FISCAL NOTE

This bill increases the penalty for certain crimes from Class D to either a Class C or a Class B crime, resulting in a shift of costs from the counties to the State. Sentences of more than 9 months for Class C crimes must be served in state correctional institutions at the cost of \$61,894 per sentence based on an average length of stay of 2 years and 3 months. For a Class B crime, the cost to the State per sentence is \$96,237 based upon an average length of stay of 3 years and 6 months. Sentences of 9 months or less for a Class C or B crime and all sentences for a Class D crime must be served in county jails. The State must reimburse counties for housing Class C and B crime offenders but does not provide reimbursement for Class D offenders.

The Judicial Department may require additional General Fund appropriations to cover increased indigent defense costs related to those cases when the class of crime is increased. The amounts can not be estimated at this time. The collection of additional fines may also increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R.S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1129, L.D. 1588

SUMMARY

2

This amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

4