

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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177
R. of S.

L.D. 1593

DATE: 5-19-99

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**MINORITY
JUDICIARY**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to I.B. 1, L.D. 1593, "An Act to Ban Partial Birth Abortion"

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

FISCAL NOTE

This is an initiated bill. Unless enacted without change during the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature, this bill and any competing bills must be submitted to the voters at the next statewide election. The estimated cost of sending this initiated bill and any competing bills out to referendum will vary according to the total number of referenda enacted during the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature to be submitted to the voters in November. The estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda are enacted is \$95,000. Each additional referendum costs an additional \$7,000.

If enacted by the Legislature without change or if approved by the voters at the November election, physicians accused of performing illegal partial-birth abortions will be allowed to seek hearings before either the Board of Licensure in Medicine or the Board of Osteopathic Licensure. Since the total number of hearings that may be sought is unknown, an estimate of the total costs to the two boards can not be determined. However, each hearing would involve advertising and other hearing costs,

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2 expenses to contract for special expert witnesses and costs for
3 legal representation from the Department of the Attorney General
4 and could exceed \$3,500 in total costs for each hearing required.

6 This bill also may increase prosecutions for Class D
7 crimes. If a jail sentence is imposed, the additional costs to
8 the counties are estimated to be \$82.48 per day per prisoner.
9 These costs are not reimbursed by the State. The number of
10 prosecutions that may result in a jail sentence and the resulting
11 costs to the county jail system are expected to be insignificant.

12 In addition to these criminal cases, this bill also may
13 increase the number of civil suits filed in the court system.
14 The additional workload, administrative costs and indigent
15 defense costs associated with the minimal number of new cases
16 filed in the court system can be absorbed within the budgeted
17 resources of the Judicial Department. The collection of
18 additional filing fees and fines may also increase General Fund
19 revenue by minor amounts.'

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing
25 Committee on Judiciary.

26 The amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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