

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 2117

H.P. 1477

House of Representatives, March 30, 1999

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### **An Act to Improve Responsible Check Writing.**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SNOWE-MELLO of Poland.

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

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Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §6073, as amended by PL 1995, c. 288, §3, is further amended to read:

**§6073. Notice for nonpayment**

The notice for nonpayment of a check must be in substantially the following form.

"Your check, draft or order made payable to ..... in the amount of ..... has not been accepted for payment by ....., which is the drawee bank designated on your check. The check is dated ..... and it is numbered ....."

You are CAUTIONED that unless you pay the amount of this check within 10 days after the date this letter is postmarked, you may have to pay the following additional costs:

- 1. Attorney's fees;
- 2. Service costs;
- 3. Processing charges;
- 4. Interest; and
- 5. A penalty not to exceed \$50.

You are advised to make payment to ..... at the following address ....."

Failure to honor this debt may constitute a criminal offense that may result in a fine or imprisonment."

Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §6074 is enacted to read:

**§6074. Requirements for check writing**

Any person writing a check must provide that person's name, current address, phone number and one form of identification.

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires any person writing a check to provide that person's name, address, phone number and identification.

2           This bill also requires a notice for nonpayment of a check  
to state that failure to honor the debt may constitute a criminal  
offense that may result in a fine or imprisonment.