

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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of 3

L.D. 2472

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TRANSPORTATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 942, L.D. 2472, Bill, "An Act to Increase the Penalty for Leaving the Scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2252, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Aggravated punishment category. Notwithstanding subsection 4, a person commits a Class C crime if that person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to comply with this section and the accident resulted in serious bodily injury, as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 23, or death.'

Further 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 Class C crimes, 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 \$67,311 per sentence based on an average length of stay of 2 years and 5 months. Sentences of 9 months or less for a Class C crime and all sentences for a Class D crime must be served in county jails.

H. O. S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 942, L.D. 2472

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

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SUMMARY

10 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment creates an
11 aggravated punishment category for leaving the scene of an
12 accident when serious bodily injury or death occurs.
13 Specifically, the amendment makes the crime of leaving an
14 accident a Class C crime if a person intentionally, knowingly or
15 recklessly fails to comply with the current statute that requires
16 stopping at the scene and providing certain information and the
17 accident resulted in serious bodily injury, as defined in the
18 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 23, or
19 death. The amendment also adds a fiscal note.

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