

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2000

Legislative Document

No. 2490

S.P. 951

In Senate, January 12, 2000

**An Act to Provide Funding for Background Checks and Fingerprinting
for School District Employees and Volunteers.**

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative GREEN of Monmouth and
Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, LIBBY of York, ABROMSON of Cumberland,
AMERO of Cumberland, CAREY of Kennebec, DAVIS of Piscataquis, KONTOS of
Cumberland, PINGREE of Knox, SMALL of Sagadahoc, Representatives: CAMERON of
Rumford, MURPHY of Kennebunk, O'NEAL of Limestone, RICHARD of Madison,
TRAHAN of Waldoboro, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, DAVIS of Falmouth.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6103, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1995, c.
547, §5, is amended to read:

6 **4. Expenses.** ~~Notwithstanding Title 26, sections 594 and~~
7 ~~629, the~~ The expense of obtaining the information required by
8 this section must be paid by the applicant State.

10 **Sec. 2. Payment for certification, authorization or approval.** The
11 Treasurer of State, upon receipt of proof determined to be
12 adequate by the treasurer, shall reimburse those persons,
13 including schools and school districts, who have paid for the
14 fingerprinting and conducting of the needed state and national
15 criminal history record checks by the Department of Public
16 Safety, Bureau of State Police, State Bureau of Identification,
17 as required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section
18 6103.

20 **SUMMARY**

22 Under current law, beginning September 1, 1999, a person
23 seeking new employment in an elementary or secondary school is
24 required to undergo fingerprinting and criminal background
25 checks; beginning July 1, 2000, all elementary or secondary
26 school employees must undergo fingerprinting and criminal history
27 record checks. The employee is required to pay the costs
28 associated with the fingerprinting and background checks.
30

31 This bill instead requires the State to pay the costs of the
32 fingerprinting and background checks. This bill also requires
33 the reimbursement of those employees or schools that have paid
34 for the fingerprinting and background checks.