

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MAJORITY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 369, L.D. 471, Bill, "An Act to Provide a Local Option on Display of the State Flag"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Provide a Local Option on Display of the United States and State flags'

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

'Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §252-A, as amended by PL 1977, c. 696, §6, is further amended to read:

§252-A. Display

The United States flag shall ~~and State of Maine flag~~ may be flown at half mast ~~staff~~ only at such times as specified by the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Maine.

When the Governor considers it appropriate, the Governor may authorize the United States flag and the State of Maine flag to be flown at half staff throughout a political subdivision or a specified location or locations.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 Any United States flag, except those flags having a
4 historical significance, when being displayed shall must be in
6 good condition at all times, not tattered, not torn ~~er~~ and not
discolored.

8 ~~Flying the United States flag in any manner in violation of
the Federal United States Flag Code or in violation of this
section is a Class E crime.~~

10 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
12 summary the following:

14 **FISCAL NOTE**

16 This bill may reduce prosecutions for Class E crimes. If
18 the number of jail sentences is reduced, the savings to the
counties are estimated to be \$83.36 per day per prisoner. The
20 amount of any reduction of jail time and the resulting savings to
the county jail system are expected to be insignificant.

22 The Judicial Department may realize some minor savings from
24 reductions of workload and administrative costs associated with
the minimal number of cases that will no longer be filed in the
26 court system. Reductions in the collection of fines may decrease
General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

28 **SUMMARY**

30 This amendment amends the original bill by adding the United
32 States flag to the title and by striking the text of the original
bill and replacing it with changes to current language in the
34 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1. The amendment authorizes the
Governor to authorize the United States or State of Maine flag to
36 be flown at half staff in a political subdivision or a specified
location in the State. It also strikes the reference to
38 committing a Class E crime for violating the Federal United
States Flag Code. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.