

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 861

H.P. 661

House of Representatives, February 15, 2001

**An Act to Criminalize Failure to Complete Contracted and Paid for  
Work by a Building Contractor.**

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, CUMMINGS of Portland,  
DUDLEY of Portland, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, MARLEY of Portland, McDONOUGH of  
Portland, TWOMEY of Biddeford.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §363** is enacted to read:

6 **§363. Contract theft**

8 1. A person is guilty of contract theft if the person  
10 enters into a written construction contract to perform work and  
12 receives the consideration to do the work then fails to perform  
14 the work within the time specified in the contract plus 60 days  
16 or, if there is no time specified in the contract, within 90 days.

18 2. For purposes of this section, "construction contract"  
20 has the same meaning as in Title 10, section 1111, subsection 2.

22 3. Contract theft is a Class D crime.

24 **SUMMARY**

This bill creates the crime of contract theft when a person enters into a written construction contract and receives the money but then fails to do the work within a certain period of time. Contract theft is a Class D crime.