

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 1470

H.P. 1101

House of Representatives, March 8, 2001

**An Act to Enhance Enforcement and Prosecution of Computer-related Crimes.**

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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 PEAVEY of Woolwich.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and  
Representatives: NASS of Acton, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, POVICH of Ellsworth,  
RICHARDSON of Brunswick, SCHNEIDER of Durham, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland,  
WHEELER of Bridgewater, Senator: TREAT of Kennebec.

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

2  
4 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §1057, sub-§2-A.** as amended by PL 1997, c. 395,  
Pt. O, §1, is further amended to read:

6 **2-A. Surcharge imposed.** A surcharge of 12% must be added  
to every fine, forfeiture or penalty imposed by any court in this  
8 State, which, for the purposes of collection and collection  
procedures, is considered a part of the fine, forfeiture or  
10 penalty. All funds collected as a result of this surcharge must  
be deposited monthly in the Government Operations Surcharge  
12 Fund. ~~One-sixth~~ One sixth of the surcharge collected must be  
paid to the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to supplement current  
14 funds for training and recertification of part-time and full-time  
law enforcement officers. This subsection takes effect January  
1, 2001 or when the funding for the operation of the Judicial  
16 Department's computer system lapses, whichever occurs first. One  
18 sixth of the surcharge must be paid to the Department of the  
Attorney General for use by the Maine Computer Crimes Task Force  
pursuant to subsection 5.

22 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §1057, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

24 **5. Payment to Attorney General for use by Maine Computer**  
**Crimes Task Force.** Monthly, the Treasurer of State shall make  
26 payments from the Government Operations Surcharge Fund to the  
Department of the Attorney General in the amount equal to 1/6 of  
28 the surcharges received by the Treasurer of State for use by the  
Maine Computer Crimes Task Force. The task force is a  
30 collaborative partnership under the auspices of the Attorney  
General and includes the State Police, the United States Attorney  
32 and local law enforcement agencies. The purpose of the task  
force is to investigate and assist those law enforcement agencies  
34 in the State that investigate crimes involving computers.

36  
38 **SUMMARY**

40 This bill directs that 1/6 of the Government Operations  
Surcharge Fund, which consists of a surcharge added to every  
42 court-imposed fine, forfeiture or penalty in this State, must be  
paid to the Attorney General for use by the Maine Computer Crimes  
Task Force.