

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 1853

S.P. 662

In Senate, December 13, 2001

**An Act to Authorize the Formation of Regional County Corrections
Authorities.**

(EMERGENCY)

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

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 13, 2001. Referred to the Committee on State and Local Government and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela L. Cahill".

PAMELA L. CAHILL
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator McALEVEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative JODREY of Bethel and
Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, SAVAGE of Knox, WOODCOCK of Franklin,
Representatives: MADORE of Augusta, PEAVEY of Woolwich, SHERMAN of Hodgdon,
SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, TOBIN of Dexter.

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4
6 **Whereas,** overcrowding in our county correctional facilities
varies from county to county; and

8 **Whereas,** while counties are authorized to increase
accommodations to house offenders, it is often too expensive for
10 a single county to provide for expansions; and

12 **Whereas,** if 2 or more counties were authorized to form
regional county correctional facilities, the entire State would
14 benefit; and

16 **Whereas,** in order to help counties expedite the formation of
regional county correctional facilities, it is necessary to begin
18 planning by forming planning groups or authorities before the
expiration of the 90-day period required; and

20 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
22 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
24 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore,

26
28 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

30 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §1658-A** is enacted to read:

32 **§1658-A. Regional county facilities**

34 The county commissioners of 2 or more counties may form
groups to plan, finance, construct and operate regional
36 correctional facilities.

38 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

40
42

SUMMARY

44 This bill authorizes groups of 2 or more counties to plan,
finance, construct and operate regional correctional facilities.