

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 898

S.P. 293

In Senate, February 20, 2003

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Sagadahoc County Commissioner Elections and Budget Hearings

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government 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 MAYO of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative PERCY of Phippsburg and
Representative: WATSON of Bath.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §61-B** is enacted to read:

6 **§61-B. Sagadahoc County**

8 Notwithstanding section 61, registered voters of Sagadahoc
10 County shall elect a board of commissioners for the county
12 consisting of a chair and 4 other citizens. All other provisions
14 of section 61 apply to Sagadahoc County, except that 2 of the
16 commissioners must be elected by and represent the entire county.

18 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §66, sub-§12,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 554,
20 §1, is further amended to read:

22 **12. Creation of Sagadahoc County Commissioner Districts.**
24 Sagadahoc County is divided into the following 3 districts.

26 A. Commissioner District Number 1 consists of the
28 municipalities of Bowdoin and Topsham. The term of office
30 of the commissioner from this district expires in 1988 and
32 every 4 years thereafter.

34 B. Commissioner District Number 2 consists of the
36 municipalities of Arrowsic, Bowdoinham, Georgetown,
38 Phippsburg, Richmond and Woolwich and the unorganized
40 territory of Perkins. The term of office of the
42 commissioner from this district expires in 1988 and every 4
44 years thereafter.

46 C. Commissioner District Number 3 consists of the
48 municipalities of Bath and West Bath. The term of office of
the commissioner from this district expires in 1990 and
every 4 years thereafter.

In addition to the commissioners from the districts specified in
paragraphs A, B and C, 2 commissioners must be elected at large.
The term of office of an at-large commissioner is 4 years, except
that for initial commissioners elected at large, the term of the
first commissioner on the ballot expires in 2006 and the term of
the 2nd commissioner on the ballot expires in 2008.

Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §884, as amended by PL 2001, c. 143, §2 and
affected by §§3 and 4 and affected by c. 499, §1, is further
amended to read:

**§884. Budget estimate; submission to advisory
committee**

2 The Sagadahoc County commissioners shall submit a budget
estimate to the advisory committee no later than April 1st for
4 the coming fiscal year. The advisory committee shall review the
budget estimate, hold a public hearing on the budget estimate and
6 make recommendations to the commissioners before May 15th. The
county commissioners shall hold at least one public hearing in
8 each of the 3 commissioner districts. After the public hearings,
the county commissioners shall act on the budget in a timely
10 fashion and, in any event, not later than June 15th prior to the
beginning of the budget year.

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SUMMARY

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16 This bill increases the number of county commissioners in
Sagadahoc County from 3 to 5 and requires that 2 of the 5
commissioners be elected at large with staggered terms. It also
18 requires that public hearings on the Sagadahoc County budget be
held in each of the 3 commissioner districts.