

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1487

S.P. 493

In Senate, March 31, 2003

An Act To Allow Judges' Faxed Signatures in Involuntary Psychiatric Commitment Proceedings

Submitted by the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary 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 WESTON of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, DUGAY of Cherryfield,
FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, KANE of Saco, LERMAN of Augusta, MILLETT of Waterford,
WALCOTT of Lewiston.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §3863, sub-§3, ¶A**, as amended by PL 1993, c.
596, §3, is further amended to read:

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8 A. If the judge or justice finds the application and
9 accompanying certificate to be regular and in accordance
10 with the law, the judge or justice shall endorse them and
11 promptly send them to the admitting mental hospital. For
12 purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section, an
13 endorsement transmitted by facsimile machine has the same
14 legal effect and validity as the original endorsement signed
15 by the judge or justice.

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SUMMARY

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19 This bill makes a facsimile endorsement of a judge or
20 justice in an involuntary psychiatric commitment proceeding as
effective as the original endorsement.

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