

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1637

S.P. 600

In Senate, August 21, 2003

**An Act To Provide a Clear Transition for the County Commissioner
Districts as Apportioned by Public Law 2003, Chapter 43 and as
Codified by Public Law 2003, Chapter 291**

(EMERGENCY)

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

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 GAGNON of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.

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

4 **Whereas,** the public laws effecting reapportionment of county
commissioner districts do not provide a clear transition
provision; and

8 **Whereas,** the passage of this legislation is immediately
10 necessary for the Secretary of State to prepare ballots for the 2
county charter commission elections in November 2003; and

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

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

20 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §66-A, sub-§17** is enacted to read:

22 17. Transition. A person holding the office of county
24 commissioner on September 13, 2003 continues to serve the
remainder of the term for which elected. Candidates for the
26 office of county commissioner for districts in which the term of
office expires in 2004 will run for office for the districts
28 established in this section. As of January 1, 2005, all county
commissioners represent the districts established in this
30 section, regardless of when elected.

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

34

36 **SUMMARY**

38 This bill clarifies that county commissioner positions with
terms that expire in 2004 will be filled by candidates running
40 for those offices in the new districts in 2004. The makeup of
all the districts for county commissioner will change beginning
42 on January 1, 2005.