

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 455

H.P. 333

House of Representatives, January 27, 2005

**An Act To Create a Paperless Legislature and Encourage More
Working-income Legislators by Allocating Savings Resulting from a
Reduction in the Size of the Legislature**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.

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

4 **Sec. 1. Intent of Legislature regarding savings associated with**
6 **reducing size of Legislature.** It is the intent of the Legislature
8 that any savings or reduced costs resulting from the reduction of
10 the size of the Legislature from 186 to 132 Legislators be
12 apportioned as follows:

14 1. The cost of the redistricting necessary to reduce the
16 size of the Legislature must be paid as the first priority; and

18 2. Beginning with the 123rd Legislature, the savings after
20 accounting for the redistricting must be apportioned as follows:

22 A. One-third deposited into the General Fund;

24 B. One-third used to increase the pay of Legislators to an
26 amount equal to or less than the average wage of residents
28 of the State in equal proportion in both chambers; and

30 C. One-third used to provide high-speed access and internal
32 networking at the desks of Legislators in both chambers of
34 the State House and in committee.

36 Any remaining funds after the expenditures in this paragraph
38 must be divided equally and used as specified in paragraphs
40 A and B.

Sec. 2. Contingent effective date. This Act takes effect only if
the size of the Legislature is reduced from 186 members to 132
members beginning with the 123rd Legislature.

SUMMARY

This bill, a companion bill to a Constitutional Resolution
reducing the size of the Maine Legislature from 151 to 99
Representatives and from 35 to 33 Senators, establishes the
manner in which the Legislature intends to apportion the savings
that would result from a reduction in the size of the Legislature.