

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 992

S.P. 332

In Senate, February 24, 2005

An Act To Reform County Governance

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 MILLS of Somerset.

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

4 **CONCEPT DRAFT**
6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

10 This bill proposes to create a uniform structure for county
12 government, to be effective on election day in November 2006.
14 Specifically, this bill proposes to:

16 1. Increase the number of county commissioners from 3 to
18 5. Of the 5 commissioners, 4 would serve from districts of
20 uniform size within the county and the 5th would be elected from
22 the county at large;

24 2. Establish the terms of office for county commissioners
26 at 4 years. Three of the 5 county commissioners would be elected
28 in even-numbered years and the remaining 2 commissioners would be
elected in odd-numbered years;

30 3. Authorize the county commissioners to appoint the county
32 sheriff, register of deeds and county treasurer;

34 4. Dissolve the office of judge of probate and transfer
36 probate judicial functions to the Superior Court and District
Court; and

38 5. Give the clerk of the Superior Court immediate
supervisory authority over the register of probate and make the
position of register of probate subject to state civil service
law.