

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 1012

H.P. 696

House of Representatives, February 24, 2005

### An Act To Improve Security at State Courthouses

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PELLETIER-SIMPSON of Auburn.  
Cosponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland and  
Representatives: DUDLEY of Portland, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, GERZOFSKY of  
Brunswick, HUTTON of Bowdoinham.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §58** is enacted to read:

6 **§58. Courthouse Security Fund**

8 **1. Creation of fund.** The Courthouse Security Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is created under the jurisdiction and control of the Supreme Judicial Court.

10 **2. Source of fund.** The fund consists of:

12 **A.** Funds collected pursuant to Title 36, section 1811-C from the sale of firearms and ammunition; and

14 **B.** All money appropriated or allocated for inclusion in the fund, from whatever source.

16 **3. Application of fund.** Money in the fund may be used to improve security and improve public safety at court facilities under the control of the State or a subdivision of the State. Money in the fund not needed to meet the requirements of this subsection may accrue interest and be invested in a manner permitted by law.

18 **4. Revolving fund.** The fund is a nonlapsing, revolving fund.

20 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1811-C** is enacted to read:

22 **§1811-C. Firearm tax**

24 In addition to the tax imposed pursuant to section 1811, a tax is imposed at the rate of 7% on the value of firearms and firearm ammunition sold by a licensed firearm dealer. For purposes of this section, "firearm" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 12-A and "firearm dealer" means a person who is licensed as a dealer under 18 United States Code, Section 923 or who is required to be licensed as a dealer under that section. Revenue generated by this section must be allocated to the Courthouse Security Fund created in Title 4, section 58 for the purposes specified in that section.

26 **SUMMARY**

28 **This bill creates the Courthouse Security Fund to be used to improve security and public safety at Maine court facilities. Revenue for the fund is generated by an additional sales tax of 7% on the sale of firearms and ammunition for firearms sold by licensed firearm dealers.**