

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: 5/31/05

L.D. 1659 MW
(Filing No. H-596)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Minority

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
122ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 1170, L.D. 1659, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Crimes against People Who Are Homeless"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 to 4 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 2. Relationship between law enforcement agencies and homeless. The Commissioner of Public Safety and the Attorney General shall review the relationship between law enforcement agencies and people who are homeless and shall explore methods of encouraging law enforcement agencies in communities with significant homeless populations or that have homeless shelters within their areas of jurisdiction to take concrete and meaningful steps to improve relations with people who are homeless and their advocates. As part of their review, the commissioner and the Attorney General shall consider ways to encourage regular meetings between law enforcement officers and advocates, representatives of the homeless community and people who are homeless to discuss issues of concern to the homeless community, the status of pending cases when appropriate and issues raised by the law enforcement agency.'

The commissioner and the Attorney General shall report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature on the results of their review and the status of the relationship between law enforcement agencies and the people who are homeless.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any
4 nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read
consecutively.

6
8 **SUMMARY**

10 This amendment is a minority report of the Joint Standing
12 Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The amendment
14 strikes sections 2 and 3 from the bill, which directed the Board
of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy shall to
16 include in the basic and in-service law enforcement training
programs training aimed specifically at reducing barriers to
18 reporting crimes against people who are homeless and dealing with
the unique challenges posed by cases that involve victims or
witnesses who are homeless. The amendment also strikes from the
bill language in section 4 that directs the Attorney General to
20 facilitate the designation by each law enforcement agency of at
least one officer to serve as a liaison between the agency and
22 the homeless community served by the agency.

24 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
(See attached)



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1659

LR 2132(03)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Crimes against People Who Are Homeless

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "B"
Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Minority Report

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund