MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 375

H.P. 282

House of Representatives, February 5, 2009

An Act To Clarify the Amount of a Contract for Small Claim Purposes

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millient M. Macfarland MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative WALSH INNES of Yarmouth. Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Cumberland and Senator: HOBBINS of York.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §7482, first ¶, as amended by PL 1997, c. 23, §1, is further amended to read:
4 5 6 7	A <u>Notwithstanding the total amount of a debt or contract, a</u> "small claim" means a right of action cognizable by a court if the debt or damage <u>claimed</u> does not exceed \$4,500 exclusive of interest and costs. It does not include an action involving the title to real estate.
8	SUMMARY
9 10 11	This bill clarifies that in a small claim actions, notwithstanding the total amount of a debt or contract, the amount considered for jurisdictional purposes is only the debt or damage claimed.