

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 791

S.P. 225

In Senate, March 1, 2011

An Act Regarding the Construction of New Court Facilities

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator FARNHAM of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Senator: THOMAS of Somerset, Representatives: DAVIS of Sangerville,
DION of Portland, FREDETTE of Newport, STEVENS of Bangor, WINTLE of Garland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §115**, as corrected by RR 2009, c. 1, §4, is amended by adding
3 after the 3rd paragraph a new paragraph to read:

4 When new court facilities are planned, the designs must adequately address the space
5 needs of the district attorneys. The Chief Justice or the Chief Justice's designee shall
6 ensure that a statewide organization of district attorneys is consulted in the design of new
7 court facilities. Charges may not be imposed on the district attorneys for space in court
8 facilities used by the district attorneys.

9 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §115**, as corrected by RR 2009, c. 1, §4, is amended by adding at
10 the end a new paragraph to read:

11 When new court facilities are planned, the designs must adequately address the space
12 needs of attorneys providing indigent legal services. The Chief Justice or the Chief
13 Justice's designee shall ensure that the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services is
14 consulted in the design of new court facilities. Charges may not be imposed on the
15 attorneys providing indigent legal services or the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal
16 Services for space in court facilities used by attorneys providing indigent legal services.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill requires that the designs for new court facilities must adequately address the
19 space needs of the district attorneys and the attorneys providing indigent legal services.
20 The Chief Justice or the Chief Justice's designee shall ensure that a statewide organization
21 of district attorneys and the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services are consulted
22 when designing the new facilities.