

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 581

H.P. 400

House of Representatives, February 21, 2013

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Service of Process in
Eviction Actions**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative HAYES of Buckfield.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §6004** is amended to read:

3 **§6004. Commencement of action**

4 The process of forcible entry and detainer ~~shall~~ must be commenced and service
5 made in the same manner as other civil actions, except that if at least 3 good faith efforts
6 on 3 different days have been made to serve the defendant, service may be accomplished
7 by both mailing the complaint by first-class mail to the defendant's last known address
8 and leaving the complaint at the defendant's last and usual place of abode. When the
9 plaintiff lives out of the State and a recognizance is required of ~~him~~ the plaintiff, any
10 person may recognize in ~~his~~ the plaintiff's behalf and ~~shall be~~ is personally liable.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill allows service of process in forcible entry and detainer actions to be made
13 by mailing the complaint to the defendant's last known address and leaving the complaint
14 at the defendant's last and usual place of abode if at least 3 good faith efforts on 3
15 different days have been made to serve the defendant.