

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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8/11/15
ROES

L.D. 431

Date: 4/23/15

(Filing No. S-49)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

127TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 160, L.D. 431, Bill, "An Act To Strengthen the Laws Prohibiting Stalking"

Amend the bill in section 2 by striking out all of paragraph C (page 1, lines 15 to 27 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'C. The actor violates paragraph A and has 2 one or more prior convictions in this State or another jurisdiction. Notwithstanding section 2, subsection 3-B, as used in this paragraph, "another jurisdiction" also includes any Indian tribe.

Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime. In determining the sentence for a violation of this paragraph the court shall impose a sentence of imprisonment by using a 2-step process. In the first step the court shall determine a base term of imprisonment of one year. In the 2nd step the court shall determine and impose a term of imprisonment for the defendant the length of which is appropriate for the defendant after consideration of the factors required by section 1252, subsection 5-D and aggravating and mitigating factors, including, but not limited to, the character of the defendant and the defendant's criminal history, the effect of the offense on the victim and the protection of the public interest.

For the purposes of this paragraph, "prior conviction" means a conviction for a violation of this section; Title 5, section 4659; Title 15, section 321; former Title 19, section 769; Title 19-A, section 4011; Title 22, section 4036; any other temporary, emergency, interim or final protective order; an order of a tribal court of the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation; any similar order issued by any court of the United States or of any other state, territory, commonwealth or tribe; or a court-approved consent agreement. Section 9-A governs the use of prior convictions when determining a sentence-;

Amend the bill in section 3 by striking out all of paragraph E (page 1, lines 32 to 35 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'E. The actor violates paragraph C and at least one prior conviction was for a violation of paragraph D.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Violation of this paragraph is a Class B crime. In determining the sentence for a
2 violation of this paragraph the court shall impose a sentence of imprisonment by
3 using a 2-step process. In the first step the court shall determine a base term of
4 imprisonment of 2 years. In the 2nd step the court shall determine and impose a term
5 of imprisonment for the defendant the length of which is appropriate for the
6 defendant after consideration of the factors required by section 1252, subsection 5-D
7 and aggravating and mitigating factors, including, but not limited to, the character of
8 the defendant and the defendant's criminal history, the effect of the offense on the
9 victim and the protection of the public interest.'

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This amendment replaces the minimum sentence provision in the bill that applies to a
12 person convicted of stalking for a 2nd time or more times. The amendment replaces the
13 minimum sentence for a 2nd or subsequent conviction of stalking with a requirement that
14 the court use a 2-step process, first determining a base term of imprisonment of one year
15 and then considering the fact of the stalking and aggravating and mitigating factors,
16 including the impact on the victim, when determining the length of the term of
17 imprisonment. The amendment replaces the minimum sentence provision in the bill that
18 applies to a person convicted of stalking for a 2nd time or more times, when the person
19 stalked 2 or more persons of an identifiable group. The amendment requires the court to
20 use a 2-step process, first determining a base term of imprisonment of 2 years and then
21 considering the fact of the stalking and aggravating and mitigating factors, including the
22 impact on the victim, when determining the length of the term of imprisonment.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 431

LR 760(02)

An Act To Strengthen the Laws Prohibiting Stalking

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (S-49)

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Minor revenue increase - General Fund

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

Increases the class of a crime from a Class D crime to a Class C crime.

Establishes new Class C and Class B crimes, increasing correctional, indigent legal and judicial costs.

The collection of additional fines may also increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Changes in sentencing will increase costs to the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services by an average of \$638 per case, with new cases estimated to cost \$1,500 per case. The Department of Corrections will also experience incarceration costs. The average daily cost is \$107.71 per prisoner. The total number of individuals charged and sentenced in any fiscal year cannot be estimated at this time.