

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2016

Legislative Document

No. 1488

H.P. 1011

House of Representatives, December 23, 2015

**An Act To Establish the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion
Program in Maine**

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 21, 2015. Referred to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DION of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator GERZOFSKY of Cumberland and
Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, Speaker EVES of North Berwick, GATTINE of
Westbrook, LAJOIE of Lewiston, PIERCE of Falmouth, Senator: WOODSOME of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §200-K** is enacted to read:

3 **§200-K. Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program**

4 The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program, referred to in this section as "the
5 program," is established to address drug crimes by diverting low-level offenders into
6 community-based treatment and support services. The program must include, but is not
7 limited to, the provision of case management services to program participants in order to
8 secure appropriate treatment and support services such as housing, health care, job
9 training and mental health services for program participants. The Attorney General, in
10 consultation with the district attorneys, shall adopt routine technical rules, as described in
11 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, to implement this section.

12 **Sec. 2. Pilot projects.** The Attorney General, in consultation with the district
13 attorneys, shall implement the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program established
14 in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 200-K by establishing 8 pilot projects in
15 communities around the State.

16 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
17 allocations are made.

18 **ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE**

19 **Administration - Attorney General 0310**

20 Initiative: Provides funds for the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program
21 established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 200-K.

22			
23	GENERAL FUND	2015-16	2016-17
24	All Other	\$0	\$2,000,000
25			
26	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$2,000,000

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill establishes the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program to address
29 drug crimes by diverting low-level offenders into community-based treatment and
30 support services. The program includes, but is not limited to, the provision of case
31 management services to program participants in order to secure appropriate treatment and
32 support services such as housing, health care, job training and mental health services for
33 program participants. The Attorney General, in consultation with the district attorneys, is
34 directed to implement the program by establishing 8 pilot projects in communities around
35 the State.