

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2016

Legislative Document

No. 1536

S.P. 598

In Senate, January 6, 2016

An Act To Provide Ballistic Vests to State Law Enforcement Officers

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

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BURNS of Washington.
Cosponsored by Speaker EVES of North Berwick and
Senators: BAKER of Sagadahoc, CYRWAY of Kennebec, ROSEN of Hancock,
WHITTEMORE of Somerset, Representatives: FOWLE of Vassalboro, HICKMAN of
Winthrop, LUCHINI of Ellsworth.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA c. 411** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 411**

4 **BALLISTIC VESTS**

5 **§3851. Provision of ballistic vests for law enforcement**

6 **1. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
7 following terms have the following meanings.

8 A. "Ballistic vest" means a form of personal armor worn on the torso that prevents or
9 restricts penetration by a projectile discharged by a firearm as defined in Title 17-A,
10 section 2, subsection 12-A.

11 B. "Law enforcement officer" means a person who by virtue of public employment is
12 vested by law with the power to make arrests for crimes or serve criminal process,
13 whether that power extends to all crimes or is limited to specific crimes, and who
14 possesses a current and valid certificate issued by the Board of Trustees of the Maine
15 Criminal Justice Academy pursuant to section 2803-A and includes, without
16 limitation, an active:

17 (1) State police officer;

18 (2) Game warden or other law enforcement officer employed by the Department
19 of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or any bureau or division of the department;

20 (3) Employee of the Office of the State Fire Marshal who has law enforcement
21 powers pursuant to section 2396, subsection 7;

22 (4) Judicial marshal;

23 (5) Law enforcement officer in the Department of Marine Resources, including a
24 marine patrol officer appointed by the Commissioner of Marine Resources;

25 (6) Forest ranger employed by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and
26 Forestry, Bureau of Forestry or any bureau or division of the department;

27 (7) State humane agent employed by the Department of Agriculture,
28 Conservation and Forestry;

29 (8) State criminal inspector or detective employed by the Office of the Attorney
30 General pursuant to Title 5, sections 197 and 202, respectively;

31 (9) Person employed by the Department of Corrections as an investigative
32 officer as defined in Title 34-A, section 1001, subsection 10-A;

33 (10) Juvenile community corrections officer as described in Title 34-A, section
34 5602;

35 (11) Probation officer;

