

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 611

H.P. 427

House of Representatives, February 16, 2017

An Act To Amend Certain Laws Affecting the Judicial Branch

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MOONEN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §55**, as amended by PL 1983, c. 164, is further amended to read:

3 **§55. Preservation of briefs**

4 The clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court shall preserve 2 complete sets of briefs filed
5 in all cases decided in the Supreme Judicial Court sitting as the Law Court. ~~Under the~~
6 ~~direction of the Chief Justice these briefs shall be arranged in order. One set each shall~~
7 ~~thereupon be delivered to the law libraries respectively of Cumberland and Penobscot~~
8 ~~Counties for preservation and reference~~ The clerk shall provide complete sets of the
9 briefs to the law library of Cumberland County and to the Law and Legislative Reference
10 Library, either by delivering a physical set to each library or by delivering or providing
11 access to an electronic copy of the briefs. All expenses incurred in preparation and
12 delivery of these briefs ~~shall~~ must be paid by the State from the appropriation for
13 expenses of the Supreme Judicial Court.

14 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §48-A, sub-§1, ¶M**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 174, §1, is
15 further amended to read:

16 M. "Qualified legal interpreter" means a person who is licensed under Title 32,
17 chapter 22 as a certified interpreter, certified deaf interpreter or certified transliterator
18 and who:

19 (1) Is a hearing person who:

20 (a) Holds a current Specialist Certificate: Legal from the Registry of
21 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. or its successor;

22 (b) Satisfies the eligibility criteria for taking the exam for the specialist
23 certificate described in division (a) as long as, by January 1, 2012, that
24 person obtains the specialist certificate described in division (a); ~~or~~

25 (c) Is included on the bureau's list of qualified interpreters on the effective
26 date of this section, as long as that person, by January 1, 2006, meets the
27 eligibility criteria for taking the exam for the specialist certificate described
28 in division (a) and, by January 1, 2012, obtains the specialist certificate
29 described in division (a); or

30 (d) Possesses qualifications, certifications or credentials to interpret in court
31 proceedings as established by the Supreme Judicial Court; or

32 (2) Is a deaf interpreter who holds a current Certificate of Interpretation from the
33 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. or its successor or a Reverse Skills
34 Certificate from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. or its successor.
35 Beginning January 1, 2006, a deaf person, hard-of-hearing person or late-
36 deafened person must also satisfy the eligibility criteria for taking the exam for
37 the Specialist Certificate: Legal or its successor.

38 **Sec. 3. 14 MRSA §1202-A**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 705, Pt. G, §2, is amended
39 to read:

1 of the Supreme Judicial Court to provide complete sets of the briefs to the law library of
2 Cumberland County and to the Law and Legislative Reference Library instead of the law
3 library of Penobscot County.