

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1516

H.P. 1109

House of Representatives, April 9, 2019

**An Act To Improve Efficiency in Communication in the Court
System**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MOONEN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, L. of Cumberland and
Representatives: BAILEY of Saco, DUNPHY of Old Town, GATTINE of Westbrook,
TALBOT ROSS of Portland, WARREN of Hallowell, Senators: GUERIN of Penobscot, KEIM
of Oxford, LAWRENCE of York.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** for the purpose of improving the quality and timeliness of communication
4 between the court and parties in judicial matters, the judicial branch is undertaking a
5 project to provide text message notification of information regarding pending court cases;
6 and

7 **Whereas,** it is important that this project be started as soon as possible; and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
11 therefore,

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

13 **Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
14 allocations are made.

15 **JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

16 **Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

17 Initiative: Provides funding for a Project Manager Associate position to oversee the
18 acquisition, implementation, accuracy and maintenance of an electronic court notification
19 system.

20

21 GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
22 POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
23 Personal Services	\$111,000	\$114,000
24		
25 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$111,000</u>	<u>\$114,000</u>

26 **Courts - Supreme, Superior and District 0063**

27 Initiative: Provides funding to contract for an electronic court notification system. This
28 includes one-time funding for a licensing fee and extra capacity for server storage and
29 processing, as well as ongoing funding for maintenance and text message support.

30

31 GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
32 All Other	\$91,530	\$18,530
33		
34 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$91,530</u>	<u>\$18,530</u>

35

1	JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT		
2	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2019-20	2020-21
3			
4	GENERAL FUND	\$202,530	\$132,530
5			
6	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$202,530	\$132,530

7 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
8 legislation takes effect when approved.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill provides funding to the judicial branch to allow it to develop and implement
11 a text message notification system to provide information regarding pending court cases,
12 such as location, calendar, case category and case type, to involved parties.