

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1422

S.P. 472

In Senate, April 12, 2021

**An Act To Strengthen Laws Protecting Members of Law
Enforcement and Promote In-classroom Drug Use Avoidance
Education**

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on April 8, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senator: CYRWAY of Kennebec, Representatives: NEWMAN of Belgrade,
PICKETT of Dixfield.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §1501, sub-§8, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 113, Pt. A, §2,
3 is amended to read:

4 B. The selection by the person of the victim or of the property that was damaged or
5 otherwise affected by the crime because of the race, color, religion, sex, ancestry,
6 national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or homelessness of the
7 victim or of the owner or occupant of that property or because of that person's status as
8 a law enforcement officer or such status of the owner or occupant of that property; and

9 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
10 allocations are made.

11 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

12 **Drug Use Avoidance Education Reimbursement Fund N188**

13 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to reimburse school districts for the cost of providing
14 programs that educate students to avoid using drugs.

15 GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
16 All Other	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
17		
18 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill extends the application of the hate crime sentencing laws to a defendant who
21 selects the person against whom a crime is committed because of that person's status as a
22 law enforcement officer or who selects property to damage because of such status of the
23 owner or occupant of that property. It also provides \$1,000,000 in annual funding for the
24 Department of Education for programs that educate students to avoid using drugs.