MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 962

H.P. 609

House of Representatives, March 2, 2023

An Act to Lower the Amount of Seized Currency in a Criminal Asset Forfeiture over Which the Currency May Be Transferred to the Federal Government

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington. (BY REQUEST)

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §5821, 3rd ¶, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 454, §5, is amended to read:

Unless seized property under this section includes United States currency in excess of \$100,000 \$15,000, a law enforcement agency, prosecuting authority, state agency, county or municipality may not enter into an agreement to transfer or refer property seized under this section to a federal agency directly, indirectly, through adoption, through an intergovernmental joint task force or by other means that circumvent the provisions of this section.

10 SUMMARY

This bill decreases from \$100,000 to \$15,000 the amount of seized currency over which a state governmental agency, county or municipality may enter into an agreement to transfer or refer to a federal agency seized property of an owner convicted of a crime.