

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2058

S.P. 845

In Senate, December 17, 2025

**An Act to Require Municipal and County Jails to Be Available at All
Times for Detention of Persons Arrested on Criminal Charges by
Maine Law Enforcement Officers**

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

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 15, 2025. 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 that reads "DAREK M. GRANT".

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield and
Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, CURRY of Waldo.

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

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §1502, 6th ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 757, is further amended to read:

Municipal and county jails shall at all times be available for detention of persons arrested on criminal charges by any Maine state, county or any other municipal law enforcement officers. In those municipalities where full-time supervision of the jail is not provided by the municipality, full responsibility for the safekeeping and welfare of any person detained shall rest rests solely with the arresting officer. Expense of any municipality or any damage to the jail resulting from the use of its jail by any arresting officer shall must be reimbursed to the municipality by the law enforcement agency for which the arresting officer is acting.

SUMMARY

Current law requires municipal and county jails to be available at all times for detention of persons arrested by state or any other law enforcement officers. This bill requires municipal and county jails to be available at all times for detention of persons arrested on criminal charges by Maine state, county or municipal law enforcement officers.