

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2126

S.P. 804

In Senate, January 7, 2026

An Act to Eliminate the Juvenile Crime of Willful Refusal to Pay a Fine or Comply with the Terms of a Court Order

Submitted by the Department of Corrections pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "DAREK M. GRANT".

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §3103, sub-§1, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 305, §2, is further
3 amended to read:

4 C. Offenses involving intoxicating liquor, as provided in Title 28-A, sections 2051 and
5 2052 and offenses involving refusal to provide proper identification as provided in Title
6 28-A, section 2087; and

7 **Sec. 2. 15 MRSA §3103, sub-§1, ¶G**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 688,
8 Pt. A, §12, is amended to read:

9 G. A violation of section 393, subsection 1, paragraph C or section 393, subsection
10 1-A; and.

11 **Sec. 3. 15 MRSA §3103, sub-§1, ¶H**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 431, §7, is
12 repealed.

13 **Sec. 4. 15 MRSA §3201, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 431, §9, is further
14 amended to read:

15 **1. Warrantless arrests.** Arrests without warrants of juveniles for juvenile crimes
16 defined by section 3103, subsection 1, paragraphs A, and G and H by law enforcement
17 officers or private persons must be made pursuant to the provisions of Title 17-A, sections
18 15 and 16. ~~For purposes of this section, a juvenile crime defined under section 3103,~~
19 ~~subsection 1, paragraph H is deemed a Class D or Class E crime.~~ A law enforcement officer
20 or private person may not arrest a juvenile for a juvenile crime defined by section 3103,
21 subsection 1, paragraph B or C.

22 **Sec. 5. 15 MRSA §3310, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 431, §15, is further
23 amended to read:

24 **4. Standard of proof.** If the court finds that the elements of the juvenile crime as
25 defined in section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph A, or G or H are not supported by evidence
26 beyond a reasonable doubt or that the elements of a juvenile crime as defined in section
27 3103, subsection 1, paragraph B or C are not supported by a preponderance of the evidence,
28 the court shall order the petition dismissed and the juvenile discharged from any detention
29 or restriction previously ordered. The juvenile's parents, guardian or other legal custodian
30 must also be discharged from any restriction or other temporary order.

31 **Sec. 6. 15 MRSA §3310, sub-§5, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 431, §16, is
32 further amended to read:

33 A. If the court finds that the allegations of the petition alleging a juvenile crime as
34 defined in section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph A, or G or H are supported by
35 evidence beyond a reasonable doubt or that the allegations of a petition alleging a
36 juvenile crime as defined in section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph B or C are supported
37 by a preponderance of the evidence, the court shall adjudge that the juvenile committed
38 a juvenile crime and shall, in all such adjudications, issue an order of adjudication.

39 **Sec. 7. 15 MRSA §3314, sub-§1, ¶G**, as amended by PL 2025, c. 431, §17, is
40 further amended to read:

1 G. Except for a violation of the juvenile crimes defined in section 3103, subsection 1,
2 paragraph H, the The court may impose a fine, subject to Title 17-A, sections 1701 to
3 1711, except that there is no mandatory minimum fine amount. For the purpose of this
4 section, juvenile crimes defined in section 3103, subsection 1, paragraphs B and C and
5 juvenile crimes under Title 12 or Title 29-A are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.

SUMMARY

7 This bill repeals the provision of law that establishes the juvenile crime of willful
8 refusal to pay a fine imposed by court order or willful failure to comply with the terms of
9 any other court order.