

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FORTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE.

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HOUSE.

No. 75.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINE.

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AN ACT in relation to proceedings in criminal trials.

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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :*

In all trials of criminal causes, when the punishment  
2 of the offence charged is death or imprisonment for  
3 life, the accused shall have the right to state the  
4 grounds and points of his defence, in matters pertain-  
5 ing both to law and fact, before the evidence for the  
6 state is exhibited, and also the right to make the clos-  
7 ing argument to the jury by himself or his counsel.



STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
February 26, 1869. }

Reported from Committee on the Judiciary, by Mr. GILBERT,  
and printed under the Joint Rule.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*