

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 853

H. P. 1497

House of Representatives, February 17, 1949.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Campbell of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE

**RESOLVE, Authorizing Completion and Printing of a Digest of the
Opinions of the Law Court.**

Completion and printing of digest, authorized. Resolved: That the attorney-general be, and hereby is, authorized and instructed to complete the compilation of a digest of the opinions of the law court of the state of Maine authorized under the provisions of chapter 105, resolves of 1945, in such order and form as shall seem best to him after taking the opinions of the members of the bar of the state. To aid him in the completion and printing of this work, he is empowered to employ one or more competent and experienced members of the bar with such clerical assistance as may be necessary; and be it further

Appropriation. Resolved: That the governor and council are hereby authorized to provide for the printing and sale and fixing the price of the digest, to the end that as nearly as possible the expense to the state shall be defrayed. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this resolve the sum of \$12,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950, is hereby appropriated from the general fund of the state. Any unexpended balances shall not lapse, but shall remain a continuing carrying account until the purposes of this resolve have been accomplished.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Under the provisions of chapter 105 of the resolves of 1945, John S. S. Fessenden, an assistant attorney-general, and F. Boardman Fish, Jr., attorney of Portland, Maine, with a secretary and a stenographer, have been working on the compilation of the digest of the Maine law court opinions in the Maine Reports beginning at 114 Maine. They are now at 136 Maine and have this material set up ready for assembling for printing and proof-reading.

It is estimated by the department and Attorney Fish, who has been working with Mr. Fessenden, that it would take a total of 745 hours to complete the actual digesting, such as studying, dictating, digesting, transcribing by a stenographer, and classifying by the attorneys, and about 3 months of steady work by 2 lawyers and one secretary to put the digest together for the purpose of printing, checking and proof-reading after the galley proofs have been struck off. The cost of this is estimated at \$7,000.

The best estimate for printing and binding this one volume of the Maine digest from 114 Maine to 142 Maine is \$5,000, making a total of \$12,000 requested.

The proceeds from the sale of the volume will be turned over to the general fund and credited to this appropriation.