

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F O U R T H    L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1362**

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H. P. 1980

House of Representatives, March 16, 1949.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Chapman of Portland.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-NINE

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**AN ACT Relating to Summation Arguments by Counsel in Criminal Cases.**

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

**R. S., c. 135, § 28-A, additional.** Chapter 135 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 28-A, to read as follows:

**'Summation Arguments**

**Sec. 28-A. Summation arguments by counsel in criminal cases.** In all trials of criminal causes, whether by jury or by the court, after the evidence is closed, the counsel for the state shall argue and shall be limited to 50 minutes. Opposing counsel shall then argue and be limited to 50 minutes; counsel for the state shall be allowed, at his election, 10 minutes for rebuttal argument. In the event that counsel for the state shall so elect, opposing counsel shall also be allowed, at his election, 10 minutes for surrebuttal argument.'