

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 3, 2014 to July 16, 2015**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2015**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2015**

section 979-D, subsection 1, paragraph E, subparagraph (3), to implement equitable adjustments for confidential employees.

**Sec. 7. Transfer of Personal Services appropriations between programs and departments.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1585 or any other provision of law, available balances in the General Fund for Personal Services in fiscal year 2015-16 and fiscal year 2016-17 may be transferred by financial order between programs and departments within the General Fund upon recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor to be used for costs associated with collective bargaining agreements for state employees.

**Sec. 8. Transfer from Salary Plan program and special account funding.** The Salary Plan program, General Fund account in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services may be made available as needed in allotment by financial order upon the recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor to be used for the implementation of the collective bargaining agreements for state employees and for other economic items contained in this Act in fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17. Positions supported from sources of funding other than the General Fund and the Highway Fund must be funded from those other sources.

**Sec. 9. Transfer of Personal Services allocations between programs and departments.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1585 or any other provision of law, available balances in the Highway Fund for Personal Services in fiscal year 2015-16 and fiscal year 2016-17 may be transferred by financial order between programs and departments within the Highway Fund upon recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor to be used for costs associated with collective bargaining agreements for state employees.

**Sec. 10. Authorization for reimbursement of costs associated with contract resolution.** The Department of Administrative and Financial Services may be reimbursed from the Salary Plan program, General Fund account in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services for the costs of contract resolution, administration and implementation and other costs required by the process of collective bargaining and negotiation procedures.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective July 17, 2015.

**CHAPTER 377**  
**S.P. 557 - L.D. 1455**

**An Act To Make a Technical Correction to a Recently Enacted Law Regarding the Appointment of District Court Judges**

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** Public Law 2015, chapter 267 increased the count and funding for District Court judges without amending the statutory count of District Court judges; and

**Whereas,** the statutory number should be corrected immediately to allow for the nomination and confirmation of the new judges as soon as possible; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §157, sub-§1, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 519, Pt. III, §2, is further amended to read:

A. The Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters and to confirmation by the Legislature, shall appoint to the District Court ~~36~~ 38 judges. At least one judge must be appointed from each district who is a resident of a county in which the district lies, except that in District 3 there must be 2 judges appointed who are residents of a county in which the district lies; in District 6 there must be 2 judges appointed who are residents of a county in which the district lies; and in District 9 there must be 2 judges appointed who are residents of a county in which the district lies. Each District Court Judge has a term of office of 7 years.

To be eligible for appointment as a District Judge, a person must be a member of the bar of the State. The term "District Judge" includes the Chief Judge and Deputy Chief Judge.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective July 17, 2015.

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