

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

LD 1521 An Act To Strengthen Protections against Civil Asset Forfeiture

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 454 does the following:

1. It eliminates the statutory language describing civil forfeiture;
2. It requires that, for property to be forfeited under criminal forfeiture laws, the owner of the property subject to forfeiture be convicted of a crime in which the property was involved, with certain limited exceptions;
3. It repeals language describing the procedure for perfecting title to abandoned vehicles;
4. It prohibits a law enforcement agency or other entity from entering into an agreement to transfer or refer the property seized to a federal agency;
5. It requires that the Department of Public Safety post records describing forfeited property on a publicly accessible website; and
6. It adds language describing the right to a prompt post-seizure hearing for a defendant or any person with an interest in the property.

LD 1577 Resolve, To Convene a Working Group To Study Possible Solutions for Families Facing Emergency Child Custody Situations

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 99 directs the Maine Commission on Domestic and Sexual Abuse to convene a working group to study the possible solutions to emergency child custody situations and enforcement of existing orders. It directs the commission to submit a report by December 15, 2022, including any recommended legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters, which is authorized to report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

LD 1591 Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Identify Places with Offensive Names and Methods of Changing Those Names

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 98 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to work jointly with the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations to do the following: