



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1186

H.P. 819

House of Representatives, April 1, 2015

An Act To Promote Professional Training and Security in Maine Courts

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FREY of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and
Representatives: DION of Portland, GUERIN of Glenburn, HOBBS of Saco.

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

3 **Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day
4 period in order to provide support for critical court functions such as entry screening and
5 security as soon as possible; and

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

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

11 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §17-D** is enacted to read:

12 **§17-D. Fees for training, security and other expenses**

13 The State Court Administrator may establish fees on lawyers, guardians ad litem,
14 interpreters, mediators and other professionals who routinely participate in court
15 proceedings to cover the costs of training, orientation, continuing education, background
16 investigations, entry screening and security provided to these professionals. The State
17 Court Administrator also may establish fees on 3rd parties to cover the costs of the use of
18 court facilities for purposes not related to court functions by those 3rd parties. All fees
19 collected under this section must be deposited in a nonlapsing Other Special Revenue
20 Funds account to be used for these purposes only. This account may receive money from
21 grants, gifts, bequests and donations.

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

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill authorizes the State Court Administrator to establish fees on lawyers,
26 guardians ad litem, interpreters, mediators and other professionals who routinely
27 participate in court proceedings to cover the costs of training, orientation, continuing
28 education, background investigations, entry screening and security provided to these
29 professionals. The State Court Administrator also may establish fees on 3rd parties to
30 cover the costs of the use of court facilities for purposes not related to court functions by
31 those 3rd parties. All fees collected must be deposited in a nonlapsing Other Special
32 Revenue Funds account to be used for these purposes only. This account may receive
33 money from grants, gifts, bequests and donations.