



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2014

Legislative Document

No. 1789

H.P. 1281

House of Representatives, February 25, 2014

An Act To Modernize and Improve the Efficiency of Maine's Courts

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senator HASKELL of Cumberland and
Representatives: CHASE of Wells, CROCKETT of Bethel, FREY of Bangor, MORIARTY of
Cumberland, PRIEST of Brunswick, Senators: BURNS of Washington, KATZ of Kennebec,
VALENTINO of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §1610-G** is enacted to read:

3 **§1610-G. Additional securities; judicial branch**

4 Notwithstanding any limitation on the amount of securities that may be issued
5 pursuant to section 1606, subsection 2, the authority may issue additional securities in an
6 amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 outstanding at any one time for paying the costs
7 associated with planning, purchasing, customizing and implementing a case management,
8 data storage and electronic filing system for the Supreme Judicial Court, Superior Court
9 and District Court, including the violations bureau.

10 **Sec. 2. Report.** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, or the chief
11 justice's designee, shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
12 having jurisdiction over judiciary matters during the first regular session of the
13 Legislature following the initial issuance of securities to fund a case management, data
14 storage and electronic filing system for the judicial branch pursuant to the Maine Revised
15 Statutes, Title 4, section 1610-G. The report must summarize the progress made on
16 implementing the system, the system's usefulness and efficiencies realized within the
17 judicial branch resulting from implementing the system.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional
20 securities in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 to fund the planning, purchasing,
21 customizing and implementing of a case management, data storage and electronic filing
22 system for the judicial branch in order to increase court efficiency and improve public
23 service and safety. The bill requires the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to
24 provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
25 over judiciary matters regarding this system.