



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2012

Legislative Document

No. 1659

S.P. 558

In Senate, December 21, 2011

An Act To Facilitate Recovery of Debts Owed to the State for Indigent Legal Services

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 19, 2011. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HASTINGS of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative NASS of Acton and
Senator: KATZ of Kennebec, Representative: PRIEST of Brunswick.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5276-A, sub-§8**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 501, Pt. B, §21, is
3 amended to read:

4 **8. Disclosure of information.** In any civil or criminal action in which a fine,
5 forfeiture, order to pay or money judgment is entered in favor of the State or any agency
6 or department thereof, or in any action in which counsel is ~~appointed~~ assigned for an
7 indigent party, the court may require the party so indebted to the State, its agencies or
8 department, or the party for whom counsel has been ~~appointed~~ assigned, to provide that
9 party's social security number and other financial information under oath and on such
10 forms as may be prepared by the Judicial Department in order to effectuate the purposes
11 of this section. The Judicial Department may disclose social security numbers and
12 financial information obtained in accordance with this subsection to agencies or
13 departments of the State and to private collection agencies working under contract for the
14 State for the purpose of collection of the amounts owed.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 The purpose of this bill is to aid the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services in
17 the collection of amounts owed to the commission for legal services. This bill authorizes
18 the Judicial Department to disclose social security numbers and financial information to
19 agencies or departments of the State, including the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal
20 Services, and to private collection agencies working under contract for the State for the
21 purpose of collection of the amounts owed.