**An Act Regarding the Employment Status of Assistant District Attorneys**

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

**Sec.** **1. 30-A MRSA §272, sub-§1,** as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

**1.** **Appointment.**  Each district attorney shall appoint assistant district attorneys, one or more of whom may be full-time~~, to serve at the district attorney's will~~. The district attorney shall designate whether each assistant district attorney will serve full-time or part-time when appointed.

**Sec.** **2. 30-A MRSA §272, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

**7.** **Dismissal, suspension, discipline.**  A district attorney may dismiss, suspend or otherwise discipline an assistant district attorney only for cause. Cause for dismissal, suspension or disciplinary action must be a just, reasonable, appropriate and substantial reason for the action taken that relates to or affects the ability, performance of duties, authority or actions of the assistant district attorney or the public's rights or interests.

**SUMMARY**

Currently, assistant district attorneys serve at the will of the district attorney. This bill provides that an assistant district attorney can be dismissed, suspended or otherwise disciplined only for cause. The standard for cause for dismissal, suspension or discipline is the same that applies to most other county employees.