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Legislative Document

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H.P. 661

House of Representatives, March 14, 2025

An Act Regarding Court Security

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 12, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative WHITE of Guilford.
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and
Representatives: CHAPMAN of Auburn, COLLINS of Sidney, DOUDERA of Camden,
DRINKWATER of Milford, NUTTING of Oakland, PARRY of Arundel, PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft, WOOD of Norway.

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §17, sub-§15, ¶A, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. TT, §1, is further amended by enacting at the end a new first blocked paragraph to read:

The State Court Administrator shall contract for the services of qualified individuals to perform court security-related functions and services at a court if court operations at that court have been adversely affected by a lack of available court security for more than 2% of scheduled court time in a month at that court.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §17, sub-§15, ¶A, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. TT, §1, is further amended by enacting at the end a new last blocked paragraph to read:

When the State Court Administrator contracts for the services of qualified individuals to perform court security-related functions and services, the State Court Administrator shall first offer the contract to the appropriate sheriff's office before the contract is offered to another party.

14 SUMMARY

This bill requires the State Court Administrator to contract for the services of qualified individuals to perform court security-related functions and services at a court if court operations at that court have been adversely affected by a lack of available court security for more than 2% of scheduled court time in a month at that court. It provides that, when the State Court Administrator contracts for the services of qualified individuals to perform court security-related functions and services, the State Court Administrator must first offer the contract to the appropriate sheriff's office before the contract is offered to another party.