

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

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H.P. 893

House of Representatives, April 1, 2025

Resolve, Requiring the Judicial Branch to Report on the Implementation and Operation of Its Electronic Filing System

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 28, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport.

Sec. 1. Judicial branch to report on electronic filing system. Resolved: That the judicial branch shall prepare and submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary regarding the implementation and operation of the judicial branch's electronic filing system. The report must include at least the following:

- 1. A detailed accounting of all costs associated with the implementation and operation of the electronic filing system, including initial investments, ongoing maintenance and any unanticipated expenditures;
- 2. An overview of the training provided to judicial branch personnel, including judges, clerks and other staff, designed to instruct personnel to effectively use the electronic filing system. The report must address the sufficiency of the training and identify any gaps or challenges;
- 3. An updated timeline for the full implementation of the electronic filing system, including an anticipated completion date for statewide adoption;
- 4. An assessment of the satisfaction levels of judges, clerks and other court personnel regarding the usability and functionality of the electronic filing system. The assessment must identify any issues or areas for improvement;
- 5. An evaluation of alternative electronic filing software options that could be considered for use by the judicial branch, including a comparison of functionality, costs and ease of use; and
- 6. Any recommendations for legislative or administrative action to address challenges or improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the electronic filing system.
- Sec. 2. Resources; submission; authority to report out legislation. Resolved: That the report must be completed with existing resources and submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary for review no later than December 3, 2025. The committee may report out legislation based on the findings and recommendations contained in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the judicial branch to submit a comprehensive report to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary regarding the implementation of the electronic filing system. The report must address costs, training, implementation progress, satisfaction among judges, clerks and other staff and alternative electronic filing software options and must include any recommendations for legislative or administrative action necessary to improve the electronic filing system. The judicial branch must complete the report with existing resources and must submit the report to the committee no later than December 3, 2025. The committee is authorized to report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.