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Date: (Filing No. S- )

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 408, L.D. 981, “An Act to Provide Electronic Notification to Victims of Crimes”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act to Facilitate the Establishment of an Automated Crime Victim Notification System'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §2107-A** is enacted to read:

**§2107-A. Automated crime victim notification system; minimum requirements**

A facility that is required by section 2106 to provide notification to a victim of a defendant's release or escape or that is required by section 2107 to provide notification to a victim of a defendant's release on preconviction bail and that provides such notification using an automated crime victim notification system shall ensure that:

**1. Optional use of automated system.** A victim is not required to receive the notifications under section 2106 or 2107 using the automated crime victim notification system and may elect to receive the notification through other methods specified in section 2106 or 2107;

**2. Disclosure of protected information.** The automated crime victim notification system is designed to protect from disclosure the name, contact information and any other personally identifying information about a victim who registers to use the system except disclosure:

A. To a sexual assault counselor, as defined in Title 16, section 53-A, subsection 1, paragraph B;

B. To a domestic violence advocate, as defined in Title 16, section 53-B, subsection 1, paragraph A-4;

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1            C. To a victim witness advocate, as defined in Title 16, section 53-C, subsection 1,  
2            paragraph C; or

3            D. Pursuant to law, court rule, court decision or court order specifically providing for  
4            the disclosure of such information.

5            The facility shall ensure that any vendor or entity it contracts with to develop, implement  
6            or administer the system has implemented necessary policies or protocols to ensure that the  
7            vendor or entity protects from disclosure the victim information described in this  
8            subsection, except as specified in paragraphs A to C;

9            **3. Policies and protocols required.** The facility establishes and makes publicly  
10           available written policies or protocols regarding the implementation and use of the  
11           automated crime victim notification system within the facility, which must include, but are  
12           not limited to, a plan for responding to any planned or unplanned system outages or  
13           inaccurate notifications and the process by which the facility will address complaints  
14           received from victims regarding the system; and

15           **4. Staffing.** Appropriate staffing is available to respond to communications from  
16           victims regarding notifications received using the automated crime victim notification  
17           system.

18           **Sec. 2. Establishment of automated crime victim notification system.**  
19           County sheriffs, collectively through a statewide association of sheriffs, shall establish an  
20           automated crime victim notification system for use in jails, county correctional facilities  
21           and regional correctional facilities. The system under this section must be designed to  
22           provide victims and other registrants the option of receiving automated notices of  
23           information available to victims pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A,  
24           sections 2106 and 2107. In developing, maintaining and administering the system under  
25           this section, the sheriffs, collectively through a statewide association of sheriffs, may  
26           contract with an entity that develops or offers commercial, real-time automated crime  
27           victim notification systems.

28           **Sec. 3. Automated crime victim notification system advisory committee;**  
29           **report.** County sheriffs, collectively through a statewide association of sheriffs, shall  
30           convene an automated crime victim notification system advisory committee to support,  
31           coordinate and monitor the implementation of the automated crime victim notification  
32           system required by section 2. The advisory committee under this section must include  
33           representatives from a statewide association of sheriffs, a statewide coalition of domestic  
34           violence prevention projects, a statewide coalition of sexual assault support centers and the  
35           Office of Victim Services within the Department of Corrections; may invite the  
36           participation of other members as appropriate; may consult with other individuals, agencies  
37           or organizations as necessary to support its work; shall meet at least monthly; and shall, at  
38           a minimum, review and develop findings and recommendations regarding the following  
39           matters:

40           1. The resources included or proposed for inclusion in the directory of community-  
41           based support services;

42           2. The gaps or challenges experienced by crime victims who may elect to register or  
43           are registered to use the automated crime victim notification system required by section 2  
44           as that system is implemented and refined; and

1 3. Any other recommendations regarding the implementation and maintenance of that  
 2 system.

3 On or before November 4, 2026, the sheriffs, collectively through a statewide  
 4 association of sheriffs, shall submit a report outlining the findings and recommendations  
 5 of the advisory committee to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
 6 jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters. The report must, at a minimum,  
 7 include an overview of the implementation of the automated crime victim notification  
 8 system required by section 2, the recommendations regarding implementation of that  
 9 system made by the advisory committee, the status of the implementation of any such  
 10 recommendations and any other recommendations for further implementation and  
 11 sustainability of the system, including recommendations for addressing ongoing costs  
 12 associated with the system. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out  
 13 legislation relating to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

14 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
 15 allocations are made.

16 **CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF**

17 **Administration - Corrections 0141**

18 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to support activities by county sheriffs, collectively  
 19 through a statewide association of sheriffs, to develop, support and maintain an automated  
 20 crime victim notification system to be used in jails, county correctional facilities and  
 21 regional correctional facilities.

22 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
23 All Other	\$244,000	\$124,000
24		
25 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$244,000</u>	<u>\$124,000</u>

26 ,  
 27 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
 28 number to read consecutively.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It establishes minimum  
 31 standards to be implemented by any facility that is required by the Maine Revised Statutes,  
 32 Title 17-A, section 2106 to provide notification to a victim of a defendant's release or  
 33 escape or that is required by Title 17-A, section 2107 to provide notification to a victim of  
 34 a defendant's release on preconviction bail and that provides such notification using an  
 35 automated crime victim notification system. It directs county sheriffs, collectively through  
 36 a statewide association of sheriffs, to establish an automated crime victim notification  
 37 system for use in jails, county correctional facilities and regional correctional facilities,  
 38 which must be designed to provide victims and other registrants the option of receiving  
 39 automated notices of information available to victims pursuant to Title 17-A, sections 2106  
 40 and 2107. It directs the sheriffs, collectively through a statewide association of sheriffs, to  
 41 convene an advisory committee to support, coordinate and monitor the implementation of  
 42 that automated crime victim notification system. On or before November 4, 2026, the  
 43 sheriffs, collectively through a statewide association of sheriffs, are required to submit a

1 report outlining the findings and recommendations of that advisory committee to the joint  
2 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public  
3 safety matters, which may report out legislation related to the report.

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**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**