



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 195

S.P. 70

In Senate, January 27, 2015

An Act Regarding County Jails

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.
Cosponsored by Representative BLACK of Wilton and
Senators: SAVIELLO of Franklin, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, Representatives:
BUCKLAND of Farmington, GILBERT of Jay, HEAD of Bethel, McCABE of Skowhegan,
SKOLFIELD of Weld, STETKIS of Canaan.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 34-A MRSA §1805, sub-§3, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 391, §15, is
3 further amended to read:

4 B. Any net county assessment revenue in excess of county jail expenditures in
5 counties where changes in jail operations pursuant to board directives under section
6 1803 have reduced jail expenses. Any net revenue in excess of county or regional jail
7 expenditures resulting from ~~efficiencies~~ reduced jail expenditures generated by the
8 independent actions of a county or regional jail remains with the county's or regional
9 jail authority's correctional services fund balance or may be dedicated to the
10 retirement of county jail debt pursuant to Title 30-A, section 701, subsection 2-B;

11 **Sec. 2. 34-A MRSA §1806, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 653, Pt. A, §30, is
12 amended to read:

13 **4. Authority to deviate from percent distribution.** Notwithstanding subsection 3,
14 the board may alter the percent distribution to a county based on a substantial change in
15 the nature or extent of correctional services provided by that county. The board may not
16 reduce the percent distribution to a county if the change to the correctional services in
17 that county is the result of reduced county jail expenditures resulting from efficiencies
18 generated by the actions of the county.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill allows the county jails to apply savings from the county's correctional
21 budget to jail debt service without a reduction in payments from the State Board of
22 Corrections.