

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the amendment by inserting after the title the following:

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to allow sufficient time for review of the process and availability of data to determine the cost of new criminal penalties; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to allow sufficient time to report the findings of the review to determine the cost of new criminal penalties; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Amend the amendment by inserting after section 5 the following:

Sec. 6. Review process and availability of data to determine the cost of new criminal penalties. The Office of Fiscal and Program Review, the Department of Corrections and the Judicial Department shall jointly review bills carried over from the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature that have a potential impact to future inmate populations of correctional facilities. The Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review or the director's designee shall chair the review and shall convene the first meeting no later than August 15, 2007. The objective of the review is to identify and implement within existing resources where possible the factors, processes and data that would assist in more accurately forecasting the cost of changes in law of criminal penalties. The Office of Fiscal and Program Review shall staff the review and report the findings on or about November 15, 2007 to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Sec. 7. Effective date. Those sections of this Act that enact the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, sections 207-A, 209-A, 210-B, 210-C and 211-A take effect February 1, 2008.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved, except as otherwise indicated.'

SUMMARY

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause, directs certain offices and agencies to review certain bills carried over from the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature to identify the processes and data that would assist in more accurately forecasting the cost of changes in law of criminal penalties and sets an effective date for certain parts of the legislation.