



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1113

S.P. 385

In Senate, March 26, 2015

**An Act To Replace the Bail Code with a System of Validated Risk
Assessment Tools**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative DION of Portland and
Senators: KATZ of Kennebec, LIBBY of Androscoggin, MASON of Androscoggin,
SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to amend the standards for preconviction release by eliminating
6 cash bail and requiring a judge or justice when making bail determinations to consider
7 validated risk assessment tools. The purpose of this bill is to shift the emphasis from cash
8 to suitability for release based on risk, in order to ensure the defendant's appearance in
9 court and to prevent the defendant from committing new crimes.