

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2067

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-704)
110TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

6 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 2183, L.D. 2067, Bill,
7 "AN ACT to Open State Collective Bargaining to the Public."

8 Amend the Bill by striking out all of section 3 and
9 inserting in its place the following:

10 'Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §979-D, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

11 6. Open bargaining. Collective bargaining for compre-
12 hensive agreements under this chapter shall be open to the
13 public. Collective bargaining for comprehensive agreements
14 includes negotiations, mediation, fact-finding and interest
15 arbitration. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
16 notice of the proceedings shall consist of a posting giving
17 the time, place, parties and general subject matter at
18 issue, no later than one day in advance at a conspicuous
19 location in the Statehouse. All bargaining covered by this
20 provision shall take place in the State. The right of the
21 public to attend these sessions as provided in this subsec-
22 tion does not include any right to comment or otherwise to
23 actively participate in the proceedings.

24 Meetings among the representatives of one party or between
25 one party and a mediator, fact-finder or interest arbitrator
26 shall not be open to the public.

27

STATEMENT OF FACT

28 This amendment addresses 2 concerns voiced in opposi-
29 tion to the bill. First, it requires meetings which would
30 be required to be open to the public to be held in this
31 State. This is to assure that the purpose of the bill is
32 not thwarted by holding sessions outside of Maine.

33 Second, the amendment assures that the bargaining pro-
34 cess does not devolve into a "carnival-like atmosphere" by
35 the injection of public comment into the sessions. The

1 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 2083, L.D. 2067

2 object of the bill is to allow public access to information
3 through their own attendance or that of the press, so that
4 they may make their positions known to the elected repre-
5 sentatives through other traditional channels.

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Reported by the Minority of the Committee on Labor.
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of the House.

3/29/82

(Filing No. H-704)