

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1847

S.P. 739

In Senate, March 13, 1996

**An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Laws to Include
Policy-influencing and Fact-finding Advisory Boards and Commissions
in the Definition of Public Proceedings.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President BUTLAND of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative MITCHELL of Vassalboro and
Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, MILLS of Somerset, PENDEXTER of Cumberland,
Representative: FITZPATRICK of Durham.

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§2, ¶B, as repealed and replaced by
PL 1989, c. 878, Pt. A, §1, is amended to read:

B. Any board or commission of any state agency or
authority, the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine
System and any of its committees and subcommittees, the
Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy and any of
its committees and subcommittees, the Board of Trustees of
the Maine Technical College System and any of its committees
and subcommittees or any policy-influencing or fact-finding
advisory board or commission established by the Legislature,
the Governor or any state agency or authority;

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill adds policy-influencing and fact-finding advisory
boards and commissions to the definition of "public proceedings"
in the freedom of access laws. Various Attorney General
decisions have held that the current definition does not include
these types of advisory commissions or boards. This bill is not
intended to include caucuses of the Legislature or cabinet
meetings of the Governor.