

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

(New Title)
New Draft of: H. P. 139, L. D. 194

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1825

H. P. 1405

House of Representatives, June 10, 1971

Reported by a Majority of the Committee on State Government and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Establishing the Office of Legislative Liaison.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 3, c. 7, sub-c. III, additional. Chapter 7 of Title 3 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new subchapter III to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER III

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON OFFICER

§ 181. Declaration of policy

The Maine Legislature and its Members shall be provided the necessary research and administrative facilities and staff to perform legislative and public liaison responsibilities wisely and well during and between legislative sessions.

§ 182. Legislative Liaison Officer

The Legislative Research Committee shall appoint a liaison officer. He shall be chosen without reference to party affiliation and solely on the ground of fitness to perform the duties of his office. He shall hold office for a term of 6 years from the date of his appointment and until his successor has been appointed and qualified. He shall receive any necessary traveling expenses which shall be paid from the Legislative Account.

§ 183. Functions and duties of liaison officer

The Legislative Liaison Officer shall perform the following functions and duties:

1. Factual information. Collect such factual information as shall be directed by the Legislative Research Committee regarding any matter which may be of assistance to the committee or any Member of the Legislature;

2. Citizen liaison. Receive, investigate, process and make appropriate recommendations regarding any citizen inquiry or complaint received by the committee or submitted to the liaison officer by a Member of the Legislature in accordance with procedures which may be established by the committee provided such activity of the officer is within the authority of the Legislative Research Committee;

3. Public relations. Serve as the public relations officer of the Maine Legislature by conveying information regarding activities of the Legislature to the people of the State via the various news media in accordance with policy established by the Legislative Research Committee;

4. Office space. Assist in making available office space and hearing rooms to Members of the Legislature and legislative committees and other individuals and groups for various purposes according to need and according to the direction of the Legislative Research Committee, such administration of office space being subject to existing statutory authority of other legislative officers.

§ 184. Staff

The liaison officer may employ research associates and secretarial assistants, subject to the Personnel Law and the approval of the Legislative Research Committee, as necessary to carry out this chapter.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Legislative Account to the Office of Legislative Liaison the sum of \$34,000. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1971-72	1972-73
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LIAISON		
Personal Services	(1) \$12,500	(2) \$20,000
All Other	500	1,000
	<u>\$13,000</u>	<u>\$21,000</u>

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the Declaration of Policy contained in the bill.