

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1484**

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S. P. 426

In Senate, April 11, 1977

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Snowe of Androscoggin.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT to Amend the Requirement for Public Notice of  
Public Proceedings under the Right to Know Law.**

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

1 MRSA §406, last sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 758, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

In the event of an emergency meeting, local representatives of the media shall be notified of the meeting and its time and location by the same or faster means used to notify the members of the agency conducting the public proceeding.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

The Right to Know Law requires timely public notice of certain public proceedings. It also requires that local representatives of the media be notified of emergency meetings, but qualifies that requirement with the words "whenever practical." This bill would eliminate that qualification which has been used to excuse not notifying the press of emergency meetings. Whenever it is practical to notify members of a body of an emergency meeting it is equally practical to notify the press.