

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1757

6  
7 H.P. 1247

House of Representatives, December 30, 1985

8 Submitted by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services  
pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

9 Received by the Clerk of the House on December 30, 1985. Referred to  
the Committee on Education and 1,600 ordered printed pursuant to Joint  
10 Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Lacroix of Oakland.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Duffy of Bangor, Representative Walker  
of Norway and Senator Matthews of Kennebec.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX  
16

17 AN ACT to Strengthen Provisions Relating to  
18 the Delivery of the Publications of  
19 State Agencies to the Maine State  
20 Library for Reliable Public Access.  
21

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

24 1 MRSA §501-A, as amended by PL 1975, c. 746, §1,  
25 is further amended to read:

26 §501-A. Publications of state agencies

27 The publications of all agencies and the Univer-  
28 sity of Maine and the Maine Maritime Academy may be  
29 printed, bound and distributed, subject to Title 5,  
30 sections 43 through 46. The State Purchasing Agent  
31 may determine the style in which such publications  
32 may be printed and bound, with the approval of the  
33 Governor. At least 55 copies of any annual or bienni-  
34 al report not included in the Maine State Government  
35 Annual Report provided for in Title 5, sections 43

1 through 46, shall be delivered to the State Librari-  
2 an, immediately upon receipt by the State Purchasing  
3 Agent for exchange and library use; the balance of  
4 the number of each such report shall be delivered by  
5 the State Purchasing Agent to the agency preparing  
6 the report. At least 18 copies of all other publica-  
7 tions, including periodicals, bulletins, pamphlets,  
8 leaflets and special reports issued by any agency or  
9 by any legislative committee shall be delivered to  
10 the State Librarian. The agency or committee prepar-  
11 ing a publication shall have the authority to deter-  
12 mine the date on which a publication may be released,  
13 except as may be otherwise provided by law. Con-  
14 tracts or orders for the printing of all other state  
15 agency publications shall specify that the printer  
16 shall deliver to the State Librarian as a part of the  
17 printing order or contract 18 copies of each publica-  
18 tion printed at agency expense and the printer shall  
19 so deliver.

20 For the purposes of this section, "printer" means  
21 any private printer contracted by a state agency or  
22 any printing operation within State Government,  
23 whether Central Printing or a printing operation  
24 within a state agency.

25 For the purposes of this section, "publications"  
26 includes: Periodicals; newsletters; bulletins; pamph-  
27 lets; leaflets; directories; bibliographs; statisti-  
28 cal reports; brochures; plan drafts; planning docu-  
29 ments; reports; special reports; committee and com-  
30 mission minutes; informational handouts; and rules  
31 and compilations of rules regardless of number of  
32 pages, number of copies ordered, physical size or in-  
33 tended audience inside or outside the agency.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2 State Government agencies are currently required  
3 by law to provide the Maine State Library with copies  
4 of all taxpayer-funded publications. When citizenry  
5 throughout Maine seek the information contained in  
6 those publications, sometimes many years after the  
7 initial printing, they should be able to find it at  
8 their nearest state documents depository library,  
9 that public access is the purpose for which the de-  
10 pository system was set up.

11 It is proven unrealistic to expect each office in  
12 State Government to remember to deliver publication  
13 copies to the Maine State Library, staff time to con-  
14 tinually monitor the hundreds of offices involved,  
15 and in fact it has not been able to do so, resulting  
16 in significant gaps in the state document collection.

17 Rather than expect each office to deliver publi-  
18 cations, it makes more sense to require the printer  
19 itself to deliver them. This bill takes the respon-  
20 sibility from the hundreds of offices and places it  
21 in only a few hands; private printers working with  
22 state contracts, Central Printing and any printing  
23 operation within agencies.

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