

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1011

H.P. 734

House of Representatives, April 3, 1989

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative WHITCOMB of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of Aroostook, Representative HUSSEY of Milo and Representative BAILEY of Farmington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

**An Act to Establish a Reporting Mechanism for Legislators Attending
Educational Conferences.**



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

3 Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §5 is enacted to read:

5 §5. Report on conferences

7 Any member of the Senate or the House of Representatives or
9 any legislative staff person as defined in sections 163, 163-A
11 and 168 whose attendance at a conference, seminar or similar
13 informational meeting is funded in whole or in part by state
15 funds shall file a report with the Executive Director of the
17 Legislative Council within 30 days after the conference. The
executive director shall prepare a standardized one page form
with the information requests defined in this section which
members and staff of the Legislature shall use to file their
report. Legislators and legislative staff persons may attach one
additional page to complete their report.

19 1. Contents of report. The report shall not exceed 2 pages
21 and shall contain the following:

23 A. The name of the Legislator or legislative staff person;

25 B. The legislative committee of which the Legislator is a
member or to which the legislative staff person is assigned;

27 C. The date, location and sponsor of the conference;

29 D. The subject matter of the conference and the major
31 issues presented at workshops which the Legislator or the
legislative staff person attended;

33 E. The purpose of the Legislator's or legislative staff
35 person's attendance at the conference;

37 F. The names and areas of expertise of the speakers and
presenters at the conference; and

39 G. A summary of the information presented at conference
41 sessions attended by the Legislator or legislative staff
person.

43 2. Exclusions. For the purpose of this section, the
45 following are excluded:

47 A. Conferences or seminars held or sponsored by the Maine
Development Foundation;

49 B. Conferences or seminars held by state agencies; and

1 C. Meetings and conferences of committees, commissions and
3 similar organizations in this State of which Legislators are
members or serve in an advisory capacity.

5 (1). This exclusion does not apply to conferences or
7 seminars held or sponsored by national or regional
9 organizations including organizations representing
state legislatures.

11 3. Publication of reports. The Executive Director of the
13 Legislative Council shall compile the reports for publication.
15 The reports shall be arranged and indexed according to subject
17 matter within the jurisdiction of the joint standing committees
19 of the Legislature. This publication shall contain a table of
contents and shall be printed and distributed in the same manner
as reports of the joint standing committees of the Legislature.
This publication shall contain the reports filed with the
executive director for each calendar year and shall be published
within 30 days following the end of the calendar year.

21 4. Penalties. Any member of the Senate or the House of
23 Representatives or any staff person of the Legislature who fails
25 to submit the report as required by this section shall be billed
27 for the cost of that Legislator's or legislative staff person's
attendance at the conference. Upon submission of the report, the
bill of charges to the Legislator or legislative staff person
shall be cancelled.

29 **Sec. 2. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
31 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1989-90	1990-91
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All Other	\$3,600	\$3,600
Provides funds for printing sufficient copies of the conference reports.		

43 **FISCAL NOTE**

45
47 Enactment of this bill will require a \$3,600 General Fund
49 appropriation in fiscal years 1989-90 and 1990-91 to cover the
expense of printing the conference reports for distribution.

1 This bill will create additional costs in the Office of the
Executive Director of the Legislative Council which can be
3 absorbed within existing resources in the first year, but which
may require additional resources in the future.

5
7 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

9
11 The purpose of this bill is to provide the Legislature and
state taxpayers with a summary of information derived by
Legislators and legislative staff persons who attend conferences
13 and seminars at state expense.

15 This bill requires each Legislator and legislative staff
person whose attendance at a conference, seminar or other similar
17 informational meeting is funded in whole or in part by state
money to file a report with the Executive Director of the
19 Legislative Council within 30 days following the end of the
conference. This report will contain the following information:

- 21 1. The date, location and sponsor of the conference;
23
2. The subject matters or issues presented at workshops
25 which the Legislator or staff person attended;
27
3. The purpose for the Legislator's or legislative staff
person's attendance at the conference;
29
4. The names and areas of expertise of the speakers and
31 presenters at the conference; and
33
5. A summary of the information presented at the conference.

35 The reports will be compiled by the Executive Director of
the Legislative Council who will arrange and index them by
37 subject matter. The annual publication will contain the reports
for the preceding calendar year.

39
41 In the event that a Legislator or legislative staff person
fails to file a report as required, the Legislator or staff
43 person will pay the costs for attendance at the conference. Upon
submission of the report as required, the bill of charges to the
Legislator or legislative staff person will be cancelled.
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