

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1670

S.P. 593

In Senate, May 16, 1989

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President PRAY of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Establish the Whistleblower Hotline.

(After Deadline)



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

3 26 MRSA §833-A is enacted to read:

5 §833-A. Whistleblower Hotline

7 The Whistleblower Hotline shall be established to receive
8 calls concerning any waste, fraud, abuse or mismanagement in any
9 branch of the State Government.

11 1. Authorization. The Office of Fiscal and Program Review
12 is authorized to establish a toll-free hotline. The telephone
13 hotline shall be known as the "Whistleblower Hotline."

15 A. The hotline shall be open between the hours of 8 a.m.
16 and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

17 B. The toll-free hotline telephone number shall be posted
18 conspicuously in the facility foyer, lobby, activity room or
19 other conspicuous location easily accessible to employees on
20 every floor of every building owned or leased by the State
21 Government. In addition to the Whistleblower Hotline
22 telephone number, the Office of Fiscal and Program Review
23 shall post a brief summary of the purpose of the hotline as
24 well as an invitation to use the hotline including the
25 option to remain anonymous. This information shall also be
26 contained in the poster.

27 2. Administration; staff functions. The Office of Fiscal
28 and Program Review shall administer the provisions of this
29 section. It shall be the responsibility of the staff of the
30 Office of Fiscal and Program Review, on receiving specific
31 information concerning any waste, fraud, abuse or mismanagement
32 in any branch of the State Government, to report the information
33 to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having
34 jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and audit
35 and program review.

36 3. Information gathering. It shall be the responsibility
37 of the staff to gather as much information as possible from the
38 caller. The Office of Fiscal and Program Review shall prepare a
39 form for this information.

40 4. Anonymity. The staff member shall request the name of
41 each caller, but the caller shall be informed of the option to
42 remain anonymous. If the caller exercises this option, the staff
43 member is still obligated to refer legitimate evidence to the
44 committees, specified in subsection 2, subsequent to the report
45 under subsection 5.

1 and Program Review will gather information and report any
misconduct to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and
3 Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Audit and
Program Review. The toll-free hotline will be posted
5 conspicuously in every building owned or leased by the State
Government.

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