

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 109

H.P. 81

House of Representatives, January 8, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representative PARADIS of Augusta and Representative RUHLIN of Brewer.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

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An Act to Promote Community Involvement in Law Enforcement  
Activities and Provide Property Tax Relief.

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(EMERGENCY)



Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State is currently facing a financial crisis; and

Whereas, the citizens of this State need relief from property taxes; and

Whereas, law enforcement agencies should be free to solicit funds to meet the agencies' needs and thereby reduce the need for state and local funding; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

25 MRSA §3707 is enacted to read:

§3707. Exception for civic organization request

1. Notice of agency needs. Notwithstanding this chapter, the chief or head of the law enforcement agency may provide to a potential contributor notice stating any equipment, construction or maintenance needs of the law enforcement agency.

2. Records; law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency shall keep a record of any written request for information or notice stating the agency's needs and any contributions received by that agency. The record must be available to the public during normal working hours and an annual report must be made to the agency's governing body on contributions received.

3. Records; community organization. A contributor shall keep a record for at least 3 years of any contribution made to a law enforcement agency.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to create an exemption in the law on solicitation by law enforcement officers to enable a law enforcement agency to make its equipment, construction and maintenance needs known.