

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. OF S

L.D. 538

(Filing No. H- 251 )

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 419, L.D. 538, Bill, "An Act to Improve Communication between the Executive and Legislative Branches"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§101." by striking out all of the first paragraph (page 1, line 12 to 17 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'Not less than once every month during the first and 2nd regular sessions of the Legislature and any special session of one month or more in length, the Governor shall participate in an information and question session with the Senate and the House of Representatives in joint convention as provided in Title 3, chapter 8.'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in that part designated "§191." by striking out all of subsection 1 (page 1, lines 27 to 32 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'1. Frequency of sessions. Not less than once every month during the first and 2nd regular sessions of the Legislature and any special session of one month or more in length, the Senate and the House of Representatives in joint convention shall participate in an information and question session with the Governor as provided in Title 2, chapter 5.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

'3. Repeal. This chapter is repealed January 1, 1997.'

**Sec. 3. Effective date.** This Act takes effect on the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday of January 1995.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

P. of S.

**FISCAL NOTE**

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The Office of the Governor will incur some minor additional costs to participate in the information and question sessions required by this bill. These costs can be absorbed within the office's existing budgeted resources.'

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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The original bill establishes a question and answer session between the Legislature and the Governor to be conducted periodically while the Legislature is in session. This amendment changes the frequency of the information session from once every 3 weeks to once a month during each regular session or special session lasting at least a month. The amendment adds an effective date section that makes the provisions of the bill effective for the Governor and Legislature assuming office in 1995. The amendment also provides an opportunity to test the effectiveness of the information session by repealing the law on January 1, 1997. Finally, the amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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Reported by the Majority of the Committee on State and Local Government  
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