

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

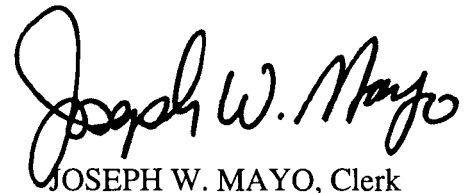
No. 381

H.P. 277

House of Representatives, February 6, 1995

An Act to Ensure Public Access to All Legislative Constituent Allowance Expenditures.

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative DAVIDSON of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, BENEDIKT of Brunswick, BERRY of Livermore, BUCK of Yarmouth, BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CHARTRAND of Rockland, ETNIER of Harpswell, GERRY of Auburn, GOOLEY of Farmington, GREEN of Monmouth, HARTNETT of Freeport, JONES of Bar Harbor, JOYCE of Biddeford, JOYNER of Hollis, LaFOUNTAIN of Biddeford, LABRECQUE of Gorham, LAYTON of Cherryfield, LEMKE of Westbrook, LIBBY of Buxton, MADORE of Augusta, MAYO of Bath, MITCHELL of Portland, NASS of Acton, O'NEAL of Limestone, RICE of South Bristol, ROBICHAUD of Caribou, ROSEBUSH of East Millinocket, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, STONE of Bangor, THOMPSON of Naples, TRIPP of Topsham, VOLENIK of Sedgwick, WATSON of Farmingdale, WHEELER of Bridgewater, WINGLASS of Auburn, Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, HARRIMAN of Cumberland, McCORMICK of Kennebec, PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §1016-D** is enacted to read:

6 **§1016-D. Disclosure of allowance for constituent services**

8 Each Legislator shall file a statement on the allowance for
10 constituent services received pursuant to Title 3, section 2 to
12 the commission by 5:00 p.m. on December 1st of each year on a
14 form provided by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State
16 shall deliver the necessary form to each member of the Senate and
18 the House of Representatives prior to the end of the last week in
20 October of each year. The statement must include an itemized
22 list of all expenditures from the allowance and is considered a
24 public record.

26 **Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §2, 3rd ¶**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 878, Pt.
28 D, §§14 and 15, is further amended to read:

30 Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall
32 be entitled to a meal allowance in the amount of \$32 and a
34 housing allowance in the amount of \$38 for each day in attendance
36 at sessions of the Legislature and for each day the member
38 occupies overnight accommodations away from home either
40 immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at
42 daily sessions of the Legislature. In lieu of the meal and
44 housing allowance, each member ~~shall-be~~ is entitled to a daily
46 meal allowance in the amount of \$32 and actual daily mileage
48 ~~allowanees allowance~~ allowance in an amount up to but not exceeding \$38 per
50 day. Each member of the Senate ~~shall-also~~ is entitled to receive
52 an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of
\$1,000, \$650 of which ~~shall must~~ must be received at the start of each
regular session and \$350 of which ~~shall must~~ must be received in the
month following adjournment of the regular session. Each member
of the House of Representatives ~~shall-also~~ is entitled to receive
an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of
\$750, \$500 of which ~~shall must~~ must be received at the start of each
regular session and \$250 of which ~~shall must~~ must be received in the
month following adjournment of the regular session. An allowance
for constituent services that has not been expended by the end of
the legislative term must be returned to the Legislative
Council. All expenditures of the allowance for constituent
services are subject to Title 1, section 1016-D.

46 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

48 This bill requires a Legislator to account for and provide
50 an itemized list of expenditures from the allowance for
52 constituent services. The bill also requires that a Legislator
return any unexpended amount to the Legislative Council.