

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)



119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 2068

H.P. 1447

House of Representatives, March 30, 1999

An Act to Create a State House Citizen Participation and Lobby Center.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.
Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and
Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, BRENNAN of Portland, COWGER of Hallowell,
ETNIER of Harpswell, MADORE of Augusta, MURPHY of Kennebunk, O'BRIEN of
Augusta, ROWE of Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §908 is enacted to read:**

6 **§908. State House citizen participation and lobby center**

8 **1. Established.** There is established a citizen participation and lobby center in the State House in which members of the public have access to various equipment, services and facilities to enhance their ability to participate in the legislative process. The center must be maintained and administered by the State House and the Capitol Park Commission.

14 **2. Location.** The citizen participation and lobby center must be located in a clearly visible and accessible location in close proximity to, but not directly contained in, the visitor's reception area.

18 **3. Organization.** The citizen participation and lobby center must contain the following:

22 **A. A photocopy machine;**

24 **B. Signage for public hearings, work sessions and meetings;**

26 **C. Computers with which to check the text and status of bills;**

28 **D. Instructional materials about the legislative process;**
30 **and**

32 **E. A citizen lobby station as described in subsection 4.**

34 **4. Citizen lobby station.** A citizen lobby station must be located within the citizen participation and lobby center to assist visitors to participate in the democratic process at the state level as citizen lobbyists.

38 **5. Staff.** The citizen participation and lobby center must be staffed by one full-time assistant during legislative sessions and by one part-time assistant during the interim between legislative sessions.

44 **Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2001.

SUMMARY

2

4 This bill creates a citizen participation and lobby center
to be located in the State House. The center must contain a
6 citizen lobby station to assist visitors to act as citizen
lobbyists. The center is to be completed by January 1, 2001.