

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1454

H.P. 1062

House of Representatives, March 27, 2003

An Act To Clarify that the Unauthorized Sale of Public Records Is a Crime

Submitted by the Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and
Representatives: CUMMINGS of Portland, FISCHER of Presque Isle, McKEE of Wayne,
SIMPSON of Auburn, THOMAS of Orono, TOBIN of Dexter, TRAHAN of Waldoboro,
Senator: MARTIN of Aroostook.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §95-A, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

6 **5. Sale of public records prohibited.** A person may not
8 sell or transfer public records, unless specifically authorized
by law. A person who violates this subsection commits a Class D
crime.

10 **SUMMARY**

12 The purpose of this bill is to reduce the illegal market in
14 public records, especially historic public records. This bill
16 prohibits the sale or transfer of public records, which,
18 according to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 92-A,
excludes publications and copies or documents intended for
distribution.