

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 618

H.P. 451

House of Representatives, February 8, 2005

An Act To Promote Parental Responsibility When Minors Make Use of Public Libraries

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative HOTHAM of Dixfield.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, JOY of Crystal, McLEOD of Lee,
RICHARDSON of Carmel, Senator: PLOWMAN of Penobscot.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §121**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 146, §1 and
affected by §2, is further amended to read:

6 **§121. Confidentiality of library records**

8 Records maintained by any public municipal library, the
Maine State Library, the Law and Legislative Reference Library
10 and libraries of the University of Maine System and the Maine
Maritime Academy that contain information relating to the
12 identity of a library patron relative to the patron's use of
books or other materials at the library are confidential. Those
14 records may only be released with the express written permission
of the patron involved or as the result of a court order. In the
16 case of the use of books or other materials by a minor, the
library records must be released upon the written request of the
18 minor's parent or guardian.

20 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill requires public municipal and state libraries to
24 release confidential records concerning a minor's use of books or
other materials in the library upon the written request of a
26 parent or guardian of the minor.