

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

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Legislative Document

No. 1817

H.P. 1257

House of Representatives, January 3, 2006

### An Act To Protect Access to Social Security Numbers

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 28, 2005. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative HOTHAM of Dixfield.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1272**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 134, §1, is  
repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6 **§1272. Prohibition**

8 A business, organization, government entity or any other  
10 entity operating in this State may not request, collect, sell,  
use or store on any system, paper or electronic, a person's  
12 social security number unless it is necessary for collecting or  
disbursing social security funds or federal law otherwise  
14 requires the Federal Government to collect the person's social  
security number from the business, organization, government  
16 entity or other entity.

18 Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent an  
employer from collecting an employee's social security number.

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24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill expands the prohibition under current law on use  
of social security numbers to prohibit all businesses,  
28 organizations, government entities and all other entities  
operating in the State from requesting a person's social security  
number for any purpose, with exceptions. Businesses and the  
30 other specified entities may request a person's social security  
number when necessary to collect or disburse social security  
32 funds and when federal law requires the Federal Government to  
obtain a person's social security number from the business and  
34 other specified entities. Employers are permitted to request an  
employee's social security number without these limitations.

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