

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**

**SENATE**

**123RD LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 684, L.D. 1881, Bill, "An Act To Improve Transparency and Accountability in Government"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §408, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 709, §2, is amended to read:

**1. Right to inspect and copy.** Except as otherwise provided by statute, every person has the right to inspect and copy any public record during the regular business hours of the agency or official having custody of the public record within a reasonable period of time after making a request to inspect or copy the public record. An agency or official may request clarification concerning which public record or public records are being requested, but in any case the agency or official shall acknowledge receipt of the request within a reasonable period of time.

**SUMMARY**

Currently a person may make a Freedom of Access request of such breadth that, as a practical and legal matter, an agency's duty to respond to the request is made difficult.

This amendment permits an agency or official to request clarification concerning which public record or public records are being requested.

The amendment also requires an agency or official to acknowledge receipt of the request within a reasonable period of time.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**



Approved: 02/07/08 *mac*

# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1881

LR 2551(02)

**An Act To Improve Transparency and Accountability in Government**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"**

**Committee: Judiciary**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The additional costs associated with this legislation can be absorbed by state departments and agencies utilizing existing budgeted resources.