

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

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Legislative Document

No. 135

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H.P. 110

House of Representatives, January 29, 2013

### **An Act To Require All Government Documents To Be Posted on the Internet**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BROOKS of Winterport.  
Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and  
Representatives: EVANGELOS of Friendship, FARNSWORTH of Portland, JONES of  
Freedom, MORRISON of South Portland, SCHNECK of Bangor, STANLEY of Medway,  
WINCHENBACH of Waldoboro.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §541, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

3 **3. Public record.** "Public record" has the same meaning as in section 402,  
4 subsections 3, 3-A and 4.

5 **Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §543** is enacted to read:

6 **§543. Public records electronically available**

7 A public entity shall make all public records in the public entity's possession  
8 available for viewing on a publicly accessible site on the Internet.

9 **Sec. 3. Maine Revised Statutes headnote amended; revision clause.** In the  
10 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, chapter 14-A, in the chapter headnote, the words "notice  
11 of information practices" are amended to read "information practices" and the Revisor of  
12 Statutes shall implement this revision when updating, publishing or republishing the  
13 statutes.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill amends the laws concerning the information practices of public entities.  
16 Current law defines "public entity" to include the Legislature; the Judicial Department; a  
17 state agency or authority; the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy  
18 and the Maine Community College System; a county, municipality or school district or  
19 any regional or other political or administrative subdivision; and an advisory organization  
20 established, authorized or organized by law or resolve or by executive order issued by the  
21 Governor. This bill requires a public entity to make available on a publicly accessible  
22 site on the Internet all public records in the possession of the public entity.