

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

---

Legislative Document

No. 978

---

H.P. 692

House of Representatives, March 12, 2013

**An Act To Enhance Public Participation in Legislative Committee  
Proceedings through the Internet**

---

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CASSIDY of Lubec.  
Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of York and  
Representatives: MAKER of Calais, McLEAN of Gorham, TURNER of Burlington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §162, sub-§18**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 43, §2, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **18. Out-of-state travel report.** To submit to the joint standing committee of the  
5 Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs a quarterly report  
6 on out-of-state travel activity of the Legislature. The report must be submitted within 15  
7 days after the end of each quarter and must include, for each individual who has been  
8 authorized to travel, the destination, purpose and cost by funding source of each trip; ~~and~~

9 **Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §162, sub-§19**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 43, §3, is amended to  
10 read:

11 **19. Legislative information available through the Internet.** To make the  
12 following information available through the Internet: legislative documents, committee  
13 hearing schedules, work session schedules, status of legislation, voting records of  
14 Legislators, the laws of Maine, study reports and reports of other study groups established  
15 by the Legislature and any other information designated by the Legislative Council; and

16 **Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §162, sub-§20** is enacted to read:

17 **20. Participation in legislative proceedings through the Internet; permanent**  
18 **record.** To make all proceedings of the joint standing committees of the Legislature  
19 available to the public through a live video broadcast that allows for remote public  
20 participation. The public hearing record must be a permanent record in the form of a  
21 video recording or other electronic recording. The State Archivist shall assist and advise  
22 the Legislative Council in the establishment of records management programs for the  
23 public hearing records pursuant to Title 5, section 95, subsection 7.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill authorizes the Legislative Council to make all proceedings of the joint  
26 standing committees of the Legislature available to the public through a live video  
27 broadcast that allows for remote public participation; records of these proceedings are  
28 permanent records.