

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 5-30-23

(Filing No H-249)

JUDICIARY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P 921, L D 1425, "An Act to Strengthen Freedom of Access Protections by Allowing Remote Meetings to Be Recorded"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following

'Sec. 3. 1 MRSA §403-B, sub-§2, ¶I is enacted to read

I When the public may attend a public proceeding by remote methods, the public body must allow members of the public to record the proceeding remotely using the same electronic platform that is used to conduct the proceeding remotely as long as the electronic platform allows participants other than the host to record the proceeding remotely, additional costs are not incurred by the public body and the recording of the proceeding does not interfere with the orderly conduct of the proceeding'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively

SUMMARY

The bill requires that, when members of the public may attend a public proceeding remotely, the public body must allow remote recording of the meeting by members of the public using the same platform that is used to conduct the meeting as long as additional costs are not incurred by the public body This amendment clarifies that a public body is not required to allow members of the public to record the public proceeding using the same electronic platform used to conduct the proceeding remotely unless the platform allows participants other than the host to record the proceeding and the recording does not interfere with the orderly conduct of the proceeding

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1425

LR 1359(02)

An Act to Strengthen Freedom of Access Protections by Allowing Remote Meetings to Be Recorded

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-249)
Committee: Judiciary
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund
Minor revenue increase - General Fund
Minor revenue increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time

The collection of additional fine revenue will increase General Fund and dedicated revenue by minor amounts