



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2016

Legislative Document

No. 1560

S.P. 611

In Senate, January 14, 2016

An Act To Strengthen Intragovernment Communication

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

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KATZ of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta and

Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, CYRWAY of Kennebec, DIAMOND of Cumberland,

Representatives: DOORE of Augusta, FOWLE of Vassalboro, GRANT of Gardiner, TUELL of East Machias.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 2 MRSA c. 7** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 7**

4 **AGENCIES**

5 **§201. Participation by agencies in legislative process**

6 Upon the request of a joint standing committee of the Legislature or a study
7 commission or work group formed by legislative action, a commissioner or director of a
8 state agency or the commissioner's or director's designee shall appear before and
9 participate in the public hearings and work sessions of that committee, commission or
10 work group. The request to appear must be in writing and must specify the date and time
11 of the hearing or work session.

12 As used in this chapter, "state agency" means a state department, agency, office,
13 board or commission or a quasi-independent agency, board, commission, authority or
14 institution.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill requires the commissioner or director of a state agency, which includes
17 executive branch departments and quasi-independent agencies, to appear before a joint
18 standing committee of the Legislature or a study commission or work group formed by
19 legislative action and to participate in the hearing and work sessions of that committee,
20 commission or work group. The committee, commission or work group must request the
21 attendance of the commissioner or director in writing and provide the date and time of the
22 hearing or work session.