



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1764

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S.P. 711

In Senate, April 24, 2023

**An Act Regarding the Charge for Research Time by State Agencies  
for Freedom of Access Act Requests**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LAWRENCE of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §408-A, sub-§8, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 375, §1, is further  
3 amended by amending subparagraph (1) to read:

4 (1) The agency or official may ~~not~~ charge a fee of \$25 for the first 2 hours of staff  
5 time per request.

6 **Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §408-A, sub-§8, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 375, §1, is further  
7 amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

8 (2) After the first 2 hours of staff time, the agency or official may charge a fee of  
9 ~~not more than~~ \$25 per hour.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill allows a state agency or official to charge \$25 for the first 2 hours of staff time  
12 responding to a public records request under the Freedom of Access Act and sets the fee at  
13 \$25 per hour for staff time after the first 2 hours.