

Date:

(Filing No. H-)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 713, L.D. 1091, “An Act to Reinforce Free Speech at Town Meetings by Allowing Persons a Minimum Amount of Time in Which to Speak”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Reinforce Free Speech at Town Meetings by Requiring Opportunity for Public Comment'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2608 is enacted to read:

§2608. Public comment at public meetings of municipal officers

A reasonable opportunity for public comment must be provided on matters addressed by the municipal governing body at any regularly scheduled public meeting of the municipal officers. This section does not apply to a subcommittee meeting of a municipal governing body. This section does not preempt or restrict the municipal governing body from adopting and enforcing reasonable standards governing public comment, including time limits and conduct standards.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It requires that a reasonable opportunity for public comment must be provided on matters addressed by the municipal governing body at any regularly scheduled public meeting of the municipal officers. The amendment clarifies that this requirement does not apply to subcommittee meetings of a municipal governing body and does not preempt or restrict the municipal governing body from adopting and enforcing reasonable standards governing public comment, including time limits and conduct standards.