



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 753

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H.P. 558

House of Representatives, March 5, 2021

### **An Act To Increase Transparency in the Legislature by Removing Certain Freedom of Access Act Exemptions**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CONNOR of Lewiston.

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

**Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶C**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 773, §2, is further amended to read:

C. Legislative papers and reports until signed and publicly distributed in accordance with legislative rules, and records, working papers, drafts and interoffice and intraoffice memoranda used or maintained by any Legislator, legislative agency or legislative employee to prepare proposed Senate or House papers or reports for consideration by the Legislature or any of its committees during the legislative session or sessions in which the papers or reports are prepared or considered or to which the paper or report is carried over;

## SUMMARY

The Freedom of Access Act currently provides that all records, working papers, drafts and interoffice and intraoffice memoranda used or maintained by any Legislator, legislative agency or legislative employee to prepare proposed Senate or House papers or reports for consideration by the Legislature or any of its committees are not considered public records during the legislative session or sessions in which the papers or reports are prepared or considered or to which the paper or report is carried over. This bill removes that provision.

The bill retains the provision in current law that exempts from the definition of "public records" legislative papers and reports until signed and publicly distributed.