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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 130TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 558, L.D. 753, “An Act To Increase Transparency in the Legislature by Removing Certain Freedom of Access Act Exemptions”

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §408-A, sub-§12 is enacted to read:

12. Legislative records during a session. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the rights and responsibilities provided in this section do not apply to legislative 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. During the legislative session in which the papers or reports are prepared or considered a person may request such records and the Legislature shall respond to the request as soon as practicable without affecting the work of the Legislature and within existing resources.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, provides the Legislature with additional time to respond to Freedom of Access Act requests for records used or maintained by Legislators, legislative agencies or legislative employees to prepare proposed Senate or House papers or reports during the legislative session in which the papers or reports are prepared or considered.