Senator Anne Carney, Chair
Representative Rachel Henderson
Amy Beveridge
Jonathan Bolton
Hon. Justin Chenette
Lynda Clancy
Julie Finn
Betsy Fitzgerald

Jen Lancaster
Brian MacMaster
Kevin Martin ·
Judy Meyer
Hon. Kimberly Monaghan
Tim Moore
Cheryl Saniuk-Heinig
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STATE OF MAINE

RIGHT TO KNOW ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 22, 2025

Senator Craig Hickman, Senate Chair
Representative Anne-Marie Mastraccio, House Chair
Committee on Government Oversight, Maine State Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Senator Hickman and Representative Mastraccio,

The Right to Know Advisory Committee (RTKAC) is in receipt of your letter dated October 16, 2025 describing FOAA requests resulting in high cost estimates by agencies and inquiring as to whether the RTKAC had considered exploring the role artificial intelligence might play in helping agencies respond more efficiently to FOAA requests. This inquiry is timely and aligns with the RTKAC's current priorities.

The RTKAC is aware that there have been instances in which agencies have provided cost estimates for individual FOAA requests that are quite substantial. Additionally, we are aware of instances in which agencies or local governments have received a high volume of FOAA requests that create a significant workload for staff responsible for responding to those requests. In response to these challenges, the RTKAC has reestablished a subcommittee focusing on burdensome FOAA requests, chaired by Mr. Kevin Martin. The goal of this subcommittee is to explore ways to streamline the FOAA response process and to ensure that members of the public are able to access public records without undue barriers.

The RTKAC has also established a new subcommittee focused on the application of technology in general, and artificial intelligence (AI) in particular, to FOAA responses. This committee is chaired by Ms. Amy Beveridge. As this is a newly emerging issue, the subcommittee is focused this interim on exploring the landscape of available technologies. The subcommittee is working to arrange a presentation to the entirety of the RTKAC by Tyler Technologies, the entity holding the contract with the state of Maine to administer InforME (Information Resource of Maine). Tyler Technologies and its parent company provide similar services to other state governments and have offered to show the RTKAC examples of ways that their AI technologies have been implemented within government agencies in other states to respond to similar needs. The committee would be pleased to have members of the GOC present for this presentation.

We look forward to working together on these issues and will reach out to GOC staff to ensure continued dialogue.

Thank you.

Sen. Anne Carney
Chair, Right to Know Advisory Committee

cc: Members, Committee on Judiciary
    Members. Committee on Government Oversight
    Members, Right to Know Advisory Committee