

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 (page 1, lines 2 to 13 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

‘**Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §408-A, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 662, §5, is amended to read:

3. Acknowledgment; clarification; time estimate; cost estimate. The agency or official having custody or control of a public record shall acknowledge receipt of a request made according to this section within ~~a reasonable period of time,~~ 5 working days of receiving the request and may request clarification concerning which public record or public records are being requested. ~~The~~ Within a reasonable time of receiving the request, the agency or official shall provide a good faith, nonbinding estimate of the time within which the agency or official will comply with the request, as well as a cost estimate as provided in subsection 9. The agency or official shall make a good faith effort to fully respond to the request within the estimated time.’

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 4 in the 4th line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "~~working calendar~~" and inserting the following: 'working'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 (page 1, lines 22 to 29 in L.D.)

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 5 (page 2, lines 1 to 10 in L.D.)

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

SUMMARY

This amendment requires an agency or official to acknowledge a request to inspect or copy public records within 5 working days of receiving the request. Within a reasonable time of receiving the request, the agency or official must give a good faith, nonbinding estimate of the time to comply with the request and must also provide the cost estimate as required in current law.

This amendment deletes the proposed requirement that the agency or official responding to a request explain costs and the statutes requiring redaction. It also deletes the changes to attorney's fees.