

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

An Act To Strengthen Intragovernment Communication

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

Sec. 1. 2 MRSA c. 7 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 7

AGENCIES

§ 201. Participation by agencies in legislative process

Upon the request of a joint standing committee of the Legislature or a study commission or work group formed by legislative action, a commissioner or director of a state agency or the commissioner's or director's designee shall appear before and participate in the public hearings and work sessions of that committee, commission or work group. The request to appear must be in writing and must specify the date and time of the hearing or work session.

As used in this chapter, "state agency" means a state department, agency, office, board or commission or a quasi-independent agency, board, commission, authority or institution.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the commissioner or director of a state agency, which includes executive branch departments and quasi-independent agencies, to appear before a joint standing committee of the Legislature or a study commission or work group formed by legislative action and to participate in the hearing and work sessions of that committee, commission or work group. The committee, commission or work group must request the attendance of the commissioner or director in writing and provide the date and time of the hearing or work session.