An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee

Reported by Representative BAILEY of Saco for the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 411, subsection 6, paragraph G.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §411, sub-§2, ¶M, as amended by PL 2015, c. 250, Pt. A, §1, is further amended to read:

M. The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee; and

Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §411, sub-§2, ¶N, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 250, Pt. A, §2, is amended to read:

N. One member with broad experience in and understanding of issues and costs in multiple areas of information technology, including practical applications concerning creation, storage, retrieval and accessibility of electronic records; use of communication technologies to support meetings, including teleconferencing and Internet-based conferencing; databases for records management and reporting; and information technology system development and support, appointed by the Governor.; and

Sec. 3. 1 MRSA §411, sub-§2, ¶O is enacted to read:

O. One representative having legal or professional expertise in the field of data and personal privacy, appointed by the Governor.

Sec. 4. 1 MRSA §412, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2019, c. 300, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Training required. A public access officer and an official subject to this section shall complete a course of training on the requirements of this chapter relating to public records and proceedings. The official or public access officer shall complete the training not later than the 120th day after the date the official takes the oath of office to assume the person's duties as an official or the person is designated as a public access officer pursuant to section 413, subsection 1.

Sec. 5. 1 MRSA §412, sub-§4, ¶F, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 576, §2, is amended to read:

F. Municipal officers, municipal clerks, treasurers, managers or administrators, assessors, code enforcement officers and deputies for those positions; and planning board members and budget committee members of municipal governments;

Sec. 6. 1 MRSA §412, sub-§4, ¶G, as amended by PL 2011, c. 662, §7, is further amended to read:

G. Officials Superintendents, assistant superintendents and school board members of school administrative units; and
SUMMARY

This bill implements the statutory recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee as included in Appendix F in the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Right to Know Advisory Committee.

This bill adds a member to the Right To Know Advisory Committee who has legal or professional expertise in the field of data and personal privacy, to be appointed by the Governor.

This bill makes the following changes to the requirements for freedom of access training:

1. It clarifies that an official must complete training within 120 days of assuming the duties of the position.

2. It expands the municipal officials required to complete training to include code enforcement officers, town and city managers and administrators and planning board members and clarifies that deputies of municipal clerks, treasurers, managers or administrators, assessors and code enforcement officers must also complete training.

3. It clarifies that school superintendents, assistant superintendents and school board members are required to complete training.