An Act to Protect Birds and Wildlife in the Construction and Maintenance of Public Buildings

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Representative WARREN of Scarborough.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, GEIGER of Rockland, O'NEIL of Saco, RUNTE of York, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1754 is enacted to read:

§1754. Guidance regarding integration of bird and wildlife risk management into public improvements

By December 31, 2024, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services shall establish a lead-by-example initiative under which it develops guidance regarding integration of bird and wildlife risk management into public improvements. When making public improvements, the bureau shall include bird and wildlife risk management projections in project siting and design. The bureau shall incorporate relevant construction features and strategies into buildings that are newly constructed, acquired, substantially altered or otherwise undergoing necessary development so as to reduce bird fatalities and risk to wildlife. The bureau shall develop and make available for public use a related design guide and annually certify the design guide's active use and submit a report related to the design guide to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public improvements matters.

This section does not apply to public buildings and sites or infrastructure determined by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, created pursuant to Title 27, section 502, to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, including but not limited to the State House and its grounds and the Blaine House and its grounds.

SUMMARY

This bill requires, by December 31, 2024, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to develop guidance regarding integration of bird and wildlife risk management into public improvements. The requirement does not apply to public buildings and sites or infrastructure determined to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, including the State House and the Blaine House.