



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 716

H.P. 507

House of Representatives, February 28, 2017

**An Act To Improve Requirements for Reporting to the Commission
on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PARRY of Arundel.
Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of York and
Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, FREDETTE of Newport, Senators: CHENETTE of
York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, DION of Cumberland, MASON of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1014, sub-§2-C** is enacted to read:

3 **2-C. Communications distributed by mail.** Whenever a person makes an
4 expenditure to finance a communication described in subsection 1, and the
5 communication is to be distributed by mail, the communication must be posted for
6 delivery within 14 days of the date of the expenditure. A copy of the communication
7 must be sent to the commission by mail in the same manner and form and at the same
8 time as it is sent to those persons the communication is intended to influence.

9 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1055-A, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

10 **3. Communications distributed by mail.** Whenever a person makes an expenditure
11 to finance a communication described in subsection 1, and the communication is to be
12 distributed by mail, the communication must be posted for delivery within 14 days of the
13 date of the expenditure. A copy of the communication must be sent to the commission by
14 mail in the same manner and form and at the same time as it is sent to those persons the
15 communication is intended to influence.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill amends the laws governing expenditures made for political communications
18 advocating the election or defeat of a candidate or the election or defeat of a ballot
19 measure. The bill requires communications made by mail to be posted for delivery
20 within 14 days of the expenditure being made. The bill also requires that a copy of the
21 communication be sent to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election
22 Practices in the same manner and form and at the same time as it is sent to those persons
23 the communication is intended to influence.