



STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

7 April 2017

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 329 "An Act Concerning the Law Governing the Posting of Newspaper Legal Notices and the Statewide Repository for Legal Notices."

Because we are now well into the Information Age, and given the ubiquity of the internet in our modern life, I believe that it is good policy for legal notices to be posted online. However, I also believe that requiring legal notices to be printed in newspapers at a fee does nothing but prop up a dying, antiquated industry. This requirement is a taxpayer subsidy of the worst sort. It serves to blur the line between a free press and one dependent on the State for revenue.

In the future, I would like the Legislature to explore whether we may eliminate the mandate that legal notices are posted in newspapers, but still maintain adequate notice to the public by posting online notification.

Because I think the issue of legal notices still requires attention, I cannot support this bill. For this reason, I return LD 329 unsigned and vetoed. I urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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