

GRANT T. PENNOYER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

July 10, 2015

Cynthia L. Montgomery  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Office of the Governor  
1 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Dear Ms. Montgomery:

I have received your letter regarding the recent chaptering of bills for which the 10-day period for Governor's action had expired. The Revisor's Office was performing its administrative function of chaptering laws, which had become law pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, according to the same procedure and timeframe that it always does. The only difference is that, in this instance, the office did not receive the originals back from the Governor's Office. The Revisor's Office did not ignore the Governor's position; in fact, despite their repeated attempts to get clarification regarding the original bill folders for the bills that had become law pursuant to the Constitution, no one in the Governor's Office conveyed to them the Governor's position. After repeated inquiries by the Revisor's Office, Scott Van Orman informed the Revisor that the bills were "not available," prompting the Revisor to ask whether the bills had been misplaced. Following assurances that the bills were in the Governor's Office somewhere, the Revisor informed Scott Van Orman and Suzanne Brochu that "it was fine and that the office would simply chapter the laws without the original bill folders."

You have requested that the Revisor's Office pause in its chaptering of these laws. Absent a legal opinion from an authoritative external legal source, such as an Opinion of the Justices or a written opinion of the Attorney General, which the office has used as guidance in the past, the Revisor's Office will continue to perform its administrative responsibilities in an absolutely nonpartisan manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Grant T. Pennoyer'.

Grant T. Pennoyer  
Executive Director of the Legislative Council