

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 627**

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S. P. 222

In Senate, January 24, 1961

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Stanley of Penobscot.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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**RESOLVE, Providing that the Legislative Research Committee Study the Clerical and Data Processing Activities of the State Government.**

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**Legislative Research Committee authorized to study the clerical and data processing activities of the State Government. Resolved:** That the Legislative Research Committee be authorized to study and review the clerical, accounting and data processing activities of the several departments of state government for possible increased efficiency and economy through the elimination of duplication of personnel and equipment use. Said study shall include the feasibility of establishing a service division within the Bureau of Accounts and Control to supply state departments and agencies up-to-date statistical and financial information. Said committee shall have the authority to employ such expert and professional advisors and such clerical personnel as its judgment may determine within the limits of the funds provided. The officers and staff of the Department of Finance and Administration and others shall cooperate with the committee by supplying information pertinent to the study. The committee shall report its findings to the 101st Legislature and said report shall contain recommendations for any legislation believed necessary to carry out its conclusions; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the sum of \$25,000 be appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve. Any balance of this fund as of June 30, 1962 shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the 1962-63 year to be used for the same purposes.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

For a number of years, the Bureau of Accounts and Control has utilized its IBM equipment to supply state departments and agencies with statistical and other information whenever its daily routine use would permit. As state government expanded, the demand for such service has increased considerably, while the ever increasing daily work load of the bureau has curtailed the availability of machines and personnel for such service. As a result, a number of satellite installations are now being rented by state departments and agencies. This arrangement appears to be uneconomical since satellite equipment is idle at least part of the time. Consolidation of a substantial portion of the data processing activities of these installations should result in considerable savings.

Two independent outside auditors have recommended a study be made of our electronic data processing needs. In view of the outstanding developments which have taken place in this field within the past years it appears that such a study is now in order.