

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DMG
ROBS

Minority

L.D. 745

Date: 5/28/13

(Filing No. S-136)

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

126TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 283, L.D. 745, Bill, "An Act To Promote Sustainable Food Policies"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, To Create the Commission on Statewide Food Sustainability'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission on Statewide Food Sustainability, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established; and be it further

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 11 members appointed as follows:

1. One public member with expertise in agricultural production, appointed by the President of the Senate;

2. One public member with expertise in aquacultural production, appointed by the President of the Senate;

3. One public member with expertise in food distribution, appointed by the President of the Senate;

4. One public member with expertise in agricultural production, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

5. One public member with expertise in aquacultural production, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

6. One public member with expertise in food distribution, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

7. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry or the commissioner's designee;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 8. The Commissioner of Marine Resources or the commissioner's designee;
2 9. One public member with expertise in agricultural production, appointed by the
3 Governor;

4 10. One public member with expertise in aquacultural production, appointed by the
5 Governor; and

6 11. One public member with expertise in food distribution, appointed by the
7 Governor; and be it further

8 **Sec. 3. Compensation. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, public
9 members of the commission are not entitled to reimbursement for their expenses; and be
10 it further

11 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission; chair. Resolved:** That all
12 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
13 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
14 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
15 the Executive Director shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission, at
16 which the members shall elect a chair from its members. If 30 days or more after the
17 effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the
18 Executive Director may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority
19 for the commission to meet and conduct its business; and be it further

20 **Sec. 5. Staffing. Resolved:** That, within existing resources, the Department of
21 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall provide staffing to the commission; and be it
22 further

23 **Sec. 6. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study issues related to
24 establishing food sustainability policies and reducing food insecurity among citizens of
25 this State. In its study of these issues, the commission shall:

26 1. Gather information about the current state of food insecurity and food
27 sustainability in this State;

28 2. Receive reports, testimony and advice from individuals and organizations, both
29 public and private, with expertise in food sustainability, food security and food
30 production;

31 3. Consider the need for a statewide plan to realize the goal of statewide food
32 sustainability; and

33 4. Consider the need for a plan to address immediate food and hunger issues in the
34 State; and be it further

35 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 4, 2013, the commission
36 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
37 legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.
38 The joint standing committee is authorized to introduce a bill to the Second Regular
39 Session of the 126th Legislature related to the subject matter of the report.'

40 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
41 section number to read consecutively.

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SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report. The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. It proposes to establish an 11-member Commission on Statewide Food Sustainability to study issues related to food sustainability and food insecurity in the State. The amendment requires that by December 4, 2013 the commission report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 745

LR 1890(02)

An Act To Promote Sustainable Food Policies

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A" (S-136)

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study commission are projected to be \$2,500 in fiscal year 2013-14. The Legislature's proposed budget includes \$10,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$10,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 for legislative studies. Whether the amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs associated with providing staff assistance to the commission can be absorbed by the Legislature within existing budgeted resources.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Marine Resources associated with serving on the commission can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.