

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 803

H.P. 552

House of Representatives, March 10, 2015

Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Develop Strategies To Protect Towns

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative STANLEY of Medway.
Cosponsored by Senator PATRICK of Oxford and
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, CAMPBELL of Orrington, GILBERT of Jay,
HANINGTON of Lincoln, HARLOW of Portland, SHORT of Pittsfield.

1 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force To Develop
2 Strategies To Protect Towns, referred to in this resolve as "the task force," is established.
3 The purpose of the task force is to assist municipalities with a narrow commercial base;
4 and be it further

5 **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 7
6 members as follows:

7 1. Two members of the Senate who are members of the Joint Standing Committee on
8 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development, appointed by the President of
9 the Senate;

10 2. Two members of the House of Representatives who are members of the Joint
11 Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development,
12 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

13 3. A member of a school board representing a municipality that is dependent on or
14 has lost its one major industry or suffers economically due to a lack of a diversified
15 economy or commercial base, appointed by the President of the Senate;

16 4. A municipal official representing a municipality that is dependent on or has lost its
17 one major industry or suffers economically due to a lack of a diversified economy or
18 commercial base, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

19 5. The State Tax Assessor or the State Tax Assessor's designee, who serves as an ex
20 officio member; and be it further

21 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate
22 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task
23 force; and be it further

24 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That all
25 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
26 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
27 Council once all appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after appointment
28 of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force, which
29 must be no later than 30 days following the appointment of all members; and be it further

30 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall study municipalities that have
31 lost their only major industry, rely on only one major industry or otherwise are dependent
32 on or suffer economically due to a lack of a diversified economy or commercial base.
33 The task force shall review state law and policies affecting these municipalities, including
34 the system of school funding pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter
35 606-B, state-municipal revenue sharing, assistance programs and other state policies and
36 programs to develop a plan and a strategy to assist the municipalities in developing the
37 existing commercial base or transitioning to a new commercial base, attracting and
38 retaining industries and workers and diversifying the municipalities' economies,
39 including:

