

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 711

H.P. 516

House of Representatives, February 11, 2019

**Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Study and Recommend a
Minimum Age for Participation in Tackle Football**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and
Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, FARNSWORTH of Portland, FECTEAU of
Biddeford, KORNFELD of Bangor, PERRY of Calais, PIERCE of Falmouth, RECKITT of
South Portland, Senator: MILLETT of Cumberland.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this legislation establishes the Commission To Study and Recommend a
4 Minimum Age for Participation in Tackle Football; and

5 **Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that
6 the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next
7 legislative session; and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission To Study
13 and Recommend a Minimum Age for Participation in Tackle Football, referred to in this
14 resolve as "the commission," is established.

15 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of
16 13 members appointed as follows:

17 1. Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including
18 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

19 2. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
20 House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats
21 in the Legislature;

22 3. A representative of the Maine School Superintendents Association, appointed by
23 the President of the Senate;

24 4. A representative of the Maine Principals' Association, appointed by the Speaker of
25 the House;

26 5. A representative of the Maine Athletic Trainers' Association, appointed by the
27 President of the Senate; and

28 6. Three members of the public, 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate
29 and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House.

30 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate
31 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
32 commission.

33 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all
34 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
35 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
36 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,

1 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more
2 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
3 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority
4 for the commission to meet and conduct its business.

5 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study and recommend a
6 minimum age at which a person may participate in tackle football.

7 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide
8 necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff
9 support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

10 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 4, 2019, the commission
11 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
12 legislation, for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

13 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
14 legislation takes effect when approved.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This resolve establishes the Commission To Study and Recommend a Minimum Age
17 for Participation in Tackle Football. The commission is required to submit a report,
18 including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the
19 129th Legislature.