

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/22/25 Majority (Filing No. H-259) L.D. 634

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 402, L.D. 634, "Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Reduction of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County Mandates"

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study the Reduction of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County Mandates, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 15 members appointed as follows:

1. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, including a member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
2. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House, including a member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
3. One member representing the Governor's office, designated by the Governor;
4. A representative of a statewide association representing municipalities, appointed by the President of the Senate;
5. A representative of a statewide association representing town and city clerks, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
6. A representative of a statewide association representing county commissioners, appointed by the President of the Senate;
7. A representative of a county with 100,000 or more residents, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
8. A representative of a municipality with more than 20,000 residents, appointed by the President of the Senate;

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1 9. Two representatives of municipalities with 10,001 to 20,000 residents, one
2 appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Speaker of the House;

3 10. A representative of a municipality with 5,001 to 10,000 residents, appointed by the
4 Speaker of the House; and

5 11. Two representatives of municipalities with 5,000 residents or less, one appointed
6 by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Speaker of the House.

7 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
8 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
9 commission.

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

18 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall review unfunded and outdated
19 municipal and county mandates in order to provide recommendations and to report out a
20 list of mandates for the Legislature to consider eliminating or revising.

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

24 **Sec. 7. Interim report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 3, 2025, the
25 commission shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
26 an interim report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
27 legislation. The joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report to
28 the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

29 **Sec. 8. Final report. Resolved:** That, no later than November 4, 2026, the
30 commission shall submit a final report that includes its findings and recommendations,
31 including suggested legislation, not included in the interim report under section 7 for
32 presentation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state
33 and local government matters. The joint standing committee may report out legislation
34 related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

35 Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
36 section number to read consecutively.

37 **SUMMARY**

38 This amendment changes the membership of the Commission to Study the Reduction
39 of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County Mandates and removes the provisions
40 that require 2 to 4 meetings annually and allow the commission to meet remotely. Instead
41 of one report, the amendment requires an interim and a final report to the joint standing

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1 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters,
2 which is authorized to report out legislation related to each report.

3 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

4 **(See attached)**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



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LD 634

LR 816(02)

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Reduction of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County Mandates

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

A (H-259)

Committee: State and Local Government

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$3,050 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$3,050 in fiscal year 2026-27. The Legislature's proposed budget for the 2026-2027 biennium includes \$22,196 in each of fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$8,265 in projected balances from fiscal year 2024-25 and \$33,073 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these 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 of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.