

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S E V E N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 1083

H. P. 956

House of Representatives, March 1, 1955

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Browne of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Directing Review of General Statutes of Towns.

Review of general statutes of towns authorized. Resolved: That the Director of Legislative Research be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to study the present general provisions of the Statutes relating to municipalities and in particular Chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes, and to report to the next regular or special session of the Legislature such changes as may appear to be necessary or desirable to consolidate and complete such Statutes and to eliminate archaic and contradictory provisions now found in the law; and be it further

Resolved: That, to implement this study the Director of Legislative Research be authorized and directed to employ such technical and clerical assistance as may be necessary; and be it further

Resolved: That the Director of Legislative Research be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to appoint an advisory group of not more than 12 persons representing municipalities to consult with him during the progress of such study, the members of which Committee shall be paid necessary expenses of attendance of meetings called by the Director of Legislative Research; and be it further

Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of the general fund of the State the sum of \$15,000 to carry out the purposes of this resolve. Such appropriation shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

There has been no thorough going revision of the laws relating to cities, towns and plantations in recent years and an examination of those laws as they now stand leads one to suspect that there has been no such revision since the adoption of our first statutes, well over a century ago. There is much archaic, repetitive and contradictory language in the law at present, namely, Chapter 91, which has resulted from constant amendments without comprehensive review. It will be of great benefit to the municipalities of the State if the Chapter is revised as the Chapter is used so often by selectmen, assessors, tax collectors, treasurers, road commissioners and so many other town officials.