

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 3, 2008 to June 13, 2009**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2009**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2009**

limited to, voluntary disclosure of building ratings in the context of real estate transactions;

4. Encourage voluntary use of the standardized rating system and reporting form by large-scale property owners and managers, including the State, municipalities and other public and private entities; and

5. Develop a voluntary library or repository of ratings based on the standardized rating system and reporting form; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Stakeholder group. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities Commission, as administrator of the United States Department of Energy State Energy Program, shall convene a stakeholder group to assist in the implementation of section 1. The commission, at a minimum, shall invite the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services; the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Building Codes and Standards; representatives of the energy audit and energy performance and management sectors; representatives of the residential and commercial real estate industry; and other interested parties to participate in the stakeholder group; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than February 1, 2010, the Public Utilities Commission, as administrator of the United States Department of Energy State Energy Program, shall prepare and submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy regarding the actions taken pursuant to section 1. The report must include, but is not limited to, recommendations for steps to be taken to promote the use of the standardized rating system and reporting form, with particular attention to promoting their use for state-owned facilities; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Funding. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities Commission, as administrator of the United States Department of Energy State Energy Program, may use for the purposes of this resolve up to \$50,000 of the funding received under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 designated for the commercial construction efficient design program in the Proposed Plan for Energy Stimulus Funds submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Resolve 2009, chapter 1.

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

Effective June 16, 2009.

**CHAPTER 135  
H.P. 690 - L.D. 1002**

**Resolve, To Conduct an Updated Study of the Feasibility of Establishing a Single-payor Health Care System in the State and the Impact of Any Federal Health Care Reform**

**Sec. 1. Update to feasibility study. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall contract with a qualified consultant to update the estimated costs and impact of a single-payor health care system as described in the December 2002 document titled "Feasibility Study of a Single-payer Health Plan Model for the State of Maine" produced by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. In the event that federal legislation related to universal health care is enacted, the updated study must include a preliminary analysis of the impact of federal action on state legislation to establish a single-payor health care system or other mechanism for universal health care and the availability of federal funding and guidance for implementation in this State. The Legislative Council shall seek outside grant funding to fully fund all costs of the updated study, which may not exceed \$60,000. If sufficient outside funding has not been received by the Legislative Council by October 1, 2009 to fully fund all costs of the updated study, no expenses of any kind related to the study may be incurred. The updated study must be submitted no later than January 15, 2010 to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. The Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services may submit legislation based on the updated feasibility study to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**LEGISLATURE**

**Legislature 0081**

Initiative: Allocates funds to the Legislature to contract for an update to the 2002 study of the feasibility of establishing a single-payor health care plan for the State.

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>
All Other	\$60,000	\$0

OTHER SPECIAL	\$60,000	\$0
REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL		

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 136**

**H.P. 770 - L.D. 1115**

**Resolve, To Establish the Task Force on Kinship Families**

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

**Whereas,** the Task Force on Kinship Families is created in this resolve in order to study issues facing kinship families; and

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

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

**Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force on Kinship Families, referred to in this resolve as "the task force," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 13 members appointed as follows:

1. Four members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:
  - A. Two Senators; and
  - B. One member representing a private nonprofit agency that provides services to kinship families and one member who is a state-licensed pediatrician;
2. Seven members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:
  - A. Five Representatives; and
  - B. One member who is currently providing primary care for a relative's child and one member representing the Probate Court; and
3. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee; and

4. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee; and be it further

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

**Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force, which must be no later than August 1, 2009; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall examine the issues facing kinship families, defined here as family members who care for a relative's child, and how state policies and practices can be crafted to meet the special needs of kinship families. In examining this issue, the task force shall identify existing resources within the State for kinship families, determine the needs of kinship families and gaps in services, review legal and custody issues and concerns for kinship families and create strategies for sustaining and maintaining resources for kinship families; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force; and be it further

**Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 2, 2009, the task force shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services is authorized to introduce a bill related to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session upon receipt of the report; and be it further

**Sec. 8. Funding. Resolved:** That the operations of the task force are contingent upon receipt of outside funding to fund all costs of the task force. Private financial or in-kind contributions to support the work of the task force may not be accepted from any party having a pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. Any person, other than a state agency, authorized and desiring to make a financial or in-kind contribution must certify to the Legislative Council that it has no pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. All such contributions are subject to the approval of the Legislative Council. All accepted contributions must be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council along with an accounting record that includes the amount of contributions, the date the contributions