

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 7, 2026 to APRIL 29, 2026

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 29, 2026

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IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2026

once all appointments have been made. When the appointment and invitation of all members has been completed, the chairs of the working group shall call and convene the first meeting of the working group. If 15 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the working group to meet and conduct its business.

Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the working group shall review the federal Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 96-420, Sections 6(h) and 16(b), which provide that the laws and regulations of the United States that are generally applicable to, enacted for the benefit of or that relate to a special status or right of Indians, Indian tribes or lands owned by or held in trust for Indians or Indian tribes, referred to in this resolve as "federal beneficial laws," do not apply within the State if these laws or regulations affect or preempt the laws of the State. The working group shall develop and recommend legislative mechanisms for extending the benefits of federal beneficial laws to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Mi'kmaq Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation notwithstanding these provisions of the federal Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act. The recommendations may identify particular federal beneficial laws that should not apply within the State or propose a review process to be employed when the application of a particular federal beneficial law within the State would have a specific and substantial disruptive and harmful effect on the State and its citizens. Each of the working group's recommendations must be made by consensus. For the purposes of this resolve, "consensus" means the consent of the members of the working group who are representatives of the tribe or tribes affected by a particular recommendation and a majority of the legislative members of the working group.

Sec. 6. Quorum. Resolved: That a quorum of the working group consists of at least 3 members who are representatives of the tribes and at least 3 members who are members of the Legislature.

Sec. 7. Staffing assistance. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the working group, except that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

Sec. 8. Report. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than December 2, 2026, the working group shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters that includes its findings and consensus recommendations, including any suggested legislation. The joint standing committee may report out legislation based on the consensus-based recommenda-

tions of the working group to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 166

H.P. 414 - L.D. 646

Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Unmanaged Storm Water Pollution

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study Unmanaged Storm Water Pollution, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 13 members appointed as follows:

1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including at least one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
3. One representative of an environmental group, appointed by the President of the Senate;
4. One representative who is an engineer with expertise in the design and implementation of storm water planning for development purposes, appointed by the President of the Senate;
5. One representative of municipal government, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
6. One representative of the development industry, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
7. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee;
8. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or the commissioner's designee;
9. The Commissioner of Marine Resources or the commissioner's designee; and
10. The Commissioner of Transportation or the commissioner's designee.

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 commission.

Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. 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. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission within 45 days. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business.

Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall meet to review, study and analyze existing scientific literature and data on storm water pollution gathered from stakeholder input and how it has affected or potentially will affect the State's valuable waters, habitats and species along the coast and shall:

1. Compile and review data regarding the actual and potential effects of storm water pollution on public and environmental health;
2. Identify and develop strategies to address knowledge gaps that hinder the State's ability to craft law, policy and other responses to mitigate storm water pollution;
3. Identify pollutants of concern that are not effectively managed through state and federal storm water laws and rules, including, but not limited to, chloride pollution, and recommend strategies to address those identified pollutants;
4. Identify and recommend strategies to address storm water pollution associated with development that is not effectively managed through state and federal storm water laws and rules, including through the municipal separate storm sewer system general permitting process, or through other regulatory tools; and
5. Identify barriers, such as staffing and budget, to adopting the necessary policies and tools to properly address storm water pollution to protect public health, water quality, essential habitats and commercially important species.

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

Sec. 7. Outside funding. Resolved: That the commission may seek financial contributions to fund the costs of the study. All funding is subject to approval by the Legislative Council in accordance with its policies.

Sec. 8. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 1, 2026, the commission shall submit a re-

port of its findings and recommendations to date, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 related to the subject matter of the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 167

S.P. 301 - L.D. 760

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Need to Codify or Recodify Laws Regarding Residential Community Ownership Associations by Adopting the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study the Need to Codify or Recodify Laws Regarding Residential Community Ownership Associations by Adopting the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 12 members appointed as follows:

1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including at least one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
3. One member of the Maine State Bar Association with a substantial practice in condominium or community ownership association law, appointed by the President of the Senate;
4. One member representing the real estate development community, appointed by the President of the Senate;
5. One member from an association representing municipalities in the State, appointed by the President of the Senate;
6. One member of the Maine State Bar Association with a substantial practice in condominium or community ownership association law who represents the New England Chapter of the Community Associations Institute, appointed by the Speaker of the House;