

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE**  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

December 2021

**STAFF:**

LYNNE CASWELL, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. JOSEPH BALDACCI, CHAIR  
SEN. NED CLAXTON  
SEN. KIMBERLY C. ROSEN

REP. ANN HIGGINS MATLACK, CHAIR  
REP. MARK E. BRYANT  
REP. DONNA R. DOORE  
REP. SEAN C. PAULUS  
REP. LYNN H. COPELAND  
REP. WILLIAM R. TUELL  
REP. FRANCES M. HEAD  
REP. KATHY L. DOWNES  
REP. RANDALL ADAM GREENWOOD  
REP. WALTER N. RISEMAN

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### **LD 1441 An Act To Create a James Weldon Johnson Annual Observance Day and an Observance Task Force**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 287 establishes June 17th as James Weldon Johnson Day in honor of writer and civil rights activist James Weldon Johnson and requires the Governor to issue an annual proclamation. The law directs the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations to establish a James Weldon Johnson observance task force to develop ideas for continuing James Weldon Johnson's work to end systemic racism and to explore opportunities for memorializing the life of James Weldon Johnson. The Commission is required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters on the status of the task force by January 5, 2022.

### **LD 1520 An Act To Terminate the Augusta Downtown Parking District**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 5 repeals the Augusta Downtown Parking District created by Private and Special Law 1947, chapter 124.

### **LD 1522 An Act To Update and Eliminate References in Statute to Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 275 amends several sections of the Maine Revised Statutes to replace the phrases: "board of selectmen" with "select board"; "overseer of the poor" with "board of overseers"; and in most instances, "selectmen" with "member of the select board."

### **LD 1536 An Act Regarding Municipal Public Hearings on Citizen-initiated Municipal Referenda**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 185 clarifies that the public hearing required to be held by municipal officers on an article initiated by written petition must solicit and allow for a discussion on the merits of the article.