MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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December 15, 1955

To Governor Edmund S. Muskie
Re: Tri-State Authority

You are presently faced with the problem of filling vacancies on the above-mentioned Authority which was created by Chapter 387, Public Laws of 1951. You have asked the status of this Authority

We would advise that neither the State of Vermont nor the State of New Hampshire has enacted the form of Compact enacted by the State of Maine. In Vermont the Legislature appointed a committee (Resolution No. 337, 1951) to "make further study having to do with the Tri-State institutional matters, in cooperation with the other interested States, looking toward a possible ultimate solution of the problems." The committee was renewed in 1953. No action was taken in 1955.

Chapter 198 of the Laws of New Hampshire, 1953, established a New Hampshire Tri-State Commission with the general duties of examining substantially the same fields which can be studied under our law and submitting to the Legislature recommendations relative to interstate compacts, agreements or uniform laws.

Thus it would appear that the Legislatures of the other New England States, which it was contemplated would comprise the Tri-State Authority, have not enacted a Compact such as the Legislature of Maine has passed.

We cannot find that Congress has ever consented to such Compact.

We have talked to Dr. Francis Sleeper, a member of the Committee, and have been advised by him that in all probability New Hampshire and Vermont will not in the future be a part of such a Compact.

James G. Frost
Deputy Attorney General