

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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January 4, 1968

R. D. Collins, Executive Director

Comm. on Arts & Humanities

Garth K. Chandler, Assistant

Attorney General

**Question of Conflict of Interest**

**FACTS:**

The Commission on the Arts and Humanities has a need for employing a consultant on theatre for three months. The consultant must be familiar with the State of Maine, its institutions and unique problems. After investigation, the Commission feels that the only qualified consultant is a person who happens to also be a member of the Commission.

**QUESTION:**

If it is determined improper for the Commission to contract with a person who is a member of the Commission, would it be proper for the Commission to hire that person if he should resign from his position so there would not be a problem with regard to conflict of interest?

**ANSWER:**

Yes.

**OPINION:**

The resignation of the member would sever the basis of the conflict of interest.

GKC/mf

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Garth K. Chandler  
Assistant Attorney General