

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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May 11, 1971

Henry Steinfeld, Esquire
Corporation Counsel
85 Exchange Street
Portland, Maine 04111

Dear Henry:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 5 in which you state you are requested by the City Council of South Portland to ask this office for a ruling as to whether or not a member of the State Legislature may also serve as a chairman (or member) of the Portland Harbor Commission.

Normally, this office will give an opinion on questions of conflict of interest. In this instance, you will be the third person for whom we have refused to write such an opinion. The reason we have refused is that we have been advised by Severin Beliveau, who has been retained by the Portland Harbor Commission to represent them in a court action, that the question of this conflict of interest is being raised in the court action. Inasmuch as the matter is before the Superior Court of the State, we respectfully decline to write any opinion on this matter. It is more properly a decision for the court under the circumstances.

Very truly yours,

George C. West
Deputy Attorney General

GCW:H