

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 scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE LIBRARY
AUGUST, MAINE



OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 1 FY 96/97
DATE October 1, 1996

**AN ORDER TO ACHIEVE GREATER EFFICIENCIES
IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

WHEREAS, taxpayers are concerned that taxes, especially property taxes, are too high, demanding greater efficiencies and collaboration among levels and units of government; and

WHEREAS, Maine needs to reduce duplication and fragmentation of services between levels and among units of government, and to create an explicit intergovernmental policy or system for determining how those services can be most efficiently and effectively delivered; and

WHEREAS, there needs to be an improved and proper match between the responsibility for providing certain governmental services and the responsibility for funding those services; and

WHEREAS, communications and consultations between levels of government and among units of government must be improved,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Task Force on Maine's Intergovernmental Structure as follows:

1. Purpose and Charge

By October 1, 1997, the Task Force shall prepare a recommendation to the Governor and Legislature for a practical and achievable intergovernmental system for the efficient and effective delivery of services. In doing so, the Task Force shall:

- recognize the continued existence of municipal, county, and state governments governed by elected officials, although the Task Force may recommend changes to the form or structure of such levels of government;

- take into account available regional tools and institutional structures, including councils of government and other quasi-governmental and nonprofit service providers, who shall be consulted during the course of the Task Force's deliberations, with recommendations as to the use or revision of such tools and institutional structures; and
- consider how best to clarify and, as appropriate, modify the responsibilities of the respective levels of government, including the identification of services most appropriate for regional delivery and for delivery through inter-local cooperation.

In reaching its recommendation, the Task Force shall evaluate alternatives for an improved intergovernmental system based on fiscal soundness, the likelihood of achieving cost-effective delivery of services, the matching of responsibility for and control over services with responsibility for and control over the funding of those services, and improved communications between levels of government and among units of government.

2. Report

The Task Force shall submit its recommendation to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of the 118th Legislature no later than October 1, 1997.

3. Membership

The Task Force may have up to 21 members, to be appointed by the Governor, representing municipal, county and state governments, including the following:

Seven representatives of municipal government;

Seven representatives of county government;

Seven representatives of state government, including two members of the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, four Department Commissioners, and the Director of the State Planning Office.

The Director of the State Planning Office shall serve as Chair of the Task Force. Each member shall serve on the Task Force so long as he or she continues in the elected or appointed office that qualified the member for appointment as a municipal, county, or state representative.

4. Funding and Staff

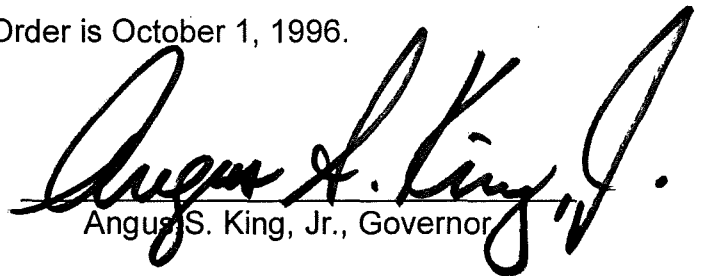
Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation. The State Planning Office shall provide staff as necessary to the Task Force from existing resources. It may contract with the Maine Development Foundation for assistance in facilitating the meetings of the Task Force and as a technical resource, provided that the Maine Development Foundation is able to provide such assistance from resources outside of state government. If any funds from state government are required for the work of the Task Force, they shall come from existing sources and must be matched on a one for one basis by municipal and county governments combined.

5. Termination

The Task Force shall terminate upon submission of its report on or before October 1, 1997.

6. Effective Date

The effective date of this Executive Order is October 1, 1996.


Angus S. King, Jr., Governor