

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF  
THE GOVERNOR

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE February 9, 2004

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**AN ORDER CREATING A STEERING COMMITTEE  
TO COORDINATE AND OVERSEE PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BLAINE HOUSE  
CONFERENCE ON NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED INDUSTRIES**

**WHEREAS**, nearly 750 people from the natural resource-based industries of agriculture, aquaculture, fishing, forestry, and tourism & recreation met in Augusta on November 17, 2003 to consider the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, challenges, and new ways of thinking about their industry sector, and the cross-cutting issues that confront all the natural resource-based industry sectors;

**WHEREAS**, the participants considered, debated, modified, and shaped some 70 recommendations to strengthen their industries and identify new ideas to position each as a long-term, sustainable natural resource-based industry (such recommendations are embodied in the "Conference Report");

**WHEREAS**, the Conference Report of the Blaine House Conference on Maine's Natural Resource-based Industries has presented recommendations intended to create the conditions that will enable each of these industry sectors to achieve a healthy and sustainable future in Maine;

**WHEREAS**, overseeing and monitoring implementation of the Conference recommendations and carrying out related activities requires a permanent committee, with membership drawn from the five industry sectors, the scholarly community, and the cognizant State agencies, to provide an ongoing maintenance of the collaborative work that went into the planning and conduct of the Conference; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Committee for the Blaine House Conference was composed of representatives of government, industry, and the scholarly community,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John E. Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby direct that the Planning Committee for the Blaine House Conference on Natural Resource-Based Industries be reconstituted and renamed "The Steering Committee To Coordinate and Oversee Progress of Implementation of Recommendations from the Blaine House Conference on Natural Resource-Based Industries," with responsibility for the following duties:

## Duties

The Steering Committee to Coordinate and Oversee Progress of Implementation of Recommendations from the Blaine House Conference on Natural Resource-Based Industries (the "Steering Committee") shall:

1. Oversee and monitor progress in implementation of the recommendations in the Conference Report, and issue an annual report in November on progress toward the goals identified in the Conference Report;
2. In collaboration with the Maine Development Foundation or other appropriate organization, create and implement a sustainable indicators and benchmarking system to track the vitality of Maine's natural resource-based industries, and issue a bi-annual report in November of the year to the people of Maine on progress measured by the system;
3. Organize and conduct forums, as appropriate, for discussion and development of the ideas and proposals set forth in the Conference Report;
4. Undertake planning for a second Blaine House Conference to be held in the Fall of 2005;
5. Lead a process to develop a clear, comprehensive, and balanced policy for Maine's natural resource-based industries, and set goals to move the State toward implementation of this policy; and
6. Carry out other such responsibilities as the Governor of the State of Maine may assign it, to ensure the vitality of Maine's natural resource-based industries.

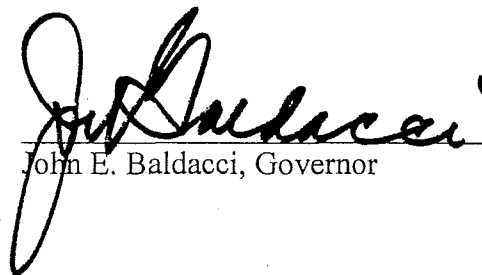
## Membership

- A. The Steering Committee consists of 19 members appointed as follows:
1. Five members appointed by the Governor shall be members of the private business community. Each of the five industry sectors (agriculture, aquaculture, fishing, forestry, and tourism & recreation) shall be represented;
  2. Six members appointed by the Governor shall be members of the scholarly community with specialized knowledge in one of the five industry sectors. Each of the five industry sectors shall be so represented;
  3. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or his designee, who shall serve ex officio;

4. The President of the Maine Community College System or his designee, who shall serve ex officio;
  5. The Commissioner of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Conservation, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Commissioner of Marine Resources, or their designees, shall serve ex officio; and
  6. One member appointed by the Governor shall be a representative of the Governor's Office.
- B. The Governor shall appoint one of the members of the scholarly community and the representative of the Governor's Office to serve as co-chairs.
- C. Members of the Steering Committee serve 3-year terms. For appointments that expire in 2007, the Governor shall appoint 6 members for a term of one year, 6 members for a term of 2 years and 7 members for a term of 3 years. Any vacancy is filled by appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term of that member. Members whose terms expire serve until their successors are qualified and appointed.
- D. The Steering Committee shall meet as frequently as needed to carry out its duties, but not less than three times annually.
- E. Staff support for the Steering Committee will be provided by the State Planning Office.
- F. The Steering Committee may seek financial and other resources from nonprofit sources for the planning and implementation of its duties.

**Effective Date**

The effective date of this Executive Order is February 9, 2004. The Governor shall make appointments to the Steering Committee no later than 30 days after the effective date.

  
John E. Baldacci, Governor