

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1376**

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H. P. 942

House of Representatives, February 13, 1963

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cope of Portland.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-THREE

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### AN ACT to Create a Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows :

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 10-A, additional.** The Revised Statutes are amended by adding a new chapter 10-A, to read as follows :

**‘Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.**

**Sec. 1. Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, established.** The Commission on Intergovernmental Relations is established and shall be composed of 7 regular members. Two members shall be appointed from the Senate by the President of the Senate, 2 members from the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and 3 members shall be appointed by the Governor. Two of the members appointed by the Governor shall be municipal officials and one member shall represent the public at large.

**Sec. 2. Tenure of office.** The members appointed by the Governor shall hold office for a term of 4 years, provided that the members representing municipalities shall remain members only so long as they hold municipal office. The members from the Senate and House of Representatives shall hold office from the date of their appointment until the final adjournment of the next succeeding regular session of the Legislature following their appointment.

**Sec. 3. Organization and procedure.** The commission shall organize by the choice of one of its members to be its chairman. The Legislative Finance Officer shall act as executive secretary to the commission. The commission may enact such rules governing its procedure and the conduct of its affairs not inconsistent with law as it may see fit.

Sec. 4. Functions of the commission. It shall be the function of the commission:

I. Consideration of common problems. To bring together representatives of the federal, state and local governments for the consideration of common problems.

II. Forum. To provide a forum for discussing the administration and coordination of federal and state grant programs.

III. Administration of grant programs. To give critical attention to the conditions and controls involved in the administration of federal and state grant programs.

IV. Information. To make available information to the executive and legislative branches of the state and municipal government in the review of proposed and existing legislation to determine the overall effect on all the levels of government.

V. Discussion and study. To encourage discussion and study at an early stage of emerging public problems that are likely to require intergovernmental cooperation.

VI. Allocation of governmental functions. To recommend the most desirable allocation of governmental functions, responsibilities and revenues among the several levels of government.

VII. Tax laws. To recommend methods of coordinating and simplifying tax laws and administrative practices to achieve a more orderly and less competitive fiscal relationship between the levels of government and to reduce the burden of compliance for taxpayers.

VIII. Legislation. To recommend to the federal government changes in present federal laws and to recommend any new legislation the commission deems advisable.

IX. Cooperate with other agencies. To work with national, state and local organizations including but not limited to the American Municipal Association, United States Conference of Mayors, the Maine Municipal Association, and other public and private organizations.

Sec. 5. Meetings of commission, hearings, committees. The commission shall hold meetings quarterly and at such other times as it deems necessary. The commission shall hold hearings from time to time on matters that it deems to be in the public interest. The commission shall have power to establish such delegations and committees as it deems advisable, whose members may or may not be made up from the members of the commission, from state officials or from private citizens, such delegations or committees to be charged with the duty of conferring and formulating proposals concerning effective means to secure intergovernmental harmony and of performing such other functions for the commission as it may from time to time require.

Sec. 6. Reports, compensation. The commission shall report to the Governor at least 30 days before the convening of each regular legislative session, which

**report shall be transmitted by the Governor to the Legislature, and it may report to the Governor at such other times as it deems appropriate. Its members shall serve without compensation but shall receive necessary travel expenses.'**

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$6,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1964 to carry out the purposes of this act. Any unexpended balance shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account until June 30, 1965.