

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1340

S. P. 520

In Senate, March 7, 1967

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

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Berry of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Creating a Capitol Planning Commission

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, c. 14, additional. Title 5 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 14, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 14

CAPITOL PLANNING COMMISSION

§ 297. Declaration of policy

The Legislature, in view of the need for effective planning to accommodate the governmental agencies of the State of Maine located at the seat of government in Augusta, and the possibility that a continuing increase in these needs may eventually make the construction of additional buildings and the enlargement of the state capitol grounds necessary, declares that it is the policy of the State of Maine that the development of the Capitol Area shall proceed with economy, careful planning, aesthetic consideration and with due regard to the public interests involved.

§ 298. Capitol Planning Commission

There is created a Capitol Planning Commission, the function of which shall be to administer this chapter and to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

The commission shall consist of 5 members appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, for overlapping terms of 5 years. One member of the first commission shall be appointed for a term of one year, one

for 2 years, one for 3 years, one for 4 years and one for 5 years. Their successors shall be appointed for terms of 5 years. Each member shall serve for the term of his appointment and thereafter until his successor is appointed and qualified. A vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner in which the original appointment is made. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but shall receive their necessary expenses.

The members of the commission shall elect a chairman who shall preside at all meetings of the commission when present. The commission shall meet at least once every 4 months and in addition, may meet as often as necessary, at such times and places as the chairman may designate. Any 3 members constitute a quorum for the exercise of all powers of the commission. The commission may employ, subject to the Personnel Law, such assistance as may be necessary to properly carry out the duties of the commission.

The Bureau of Public Improvements shall serve as the secretariat of the commission in exercising its administration. The commission may make such rules and regulations as it shall deem necessary for the purposes of carrying out this chapter.

§ 299. Duties of the commission

The commission shall establish a master plan for the orderly development of future state buildings and grounds in the Capitol Area of the City of Augusta. In evolving the master plan, the commission shall take the following factors into consideration:

1. Building location and design. The needs of the State relative to the location and general design of buildings to be constructed, parking facilities, traffic management, service approaches, park areas and landscaping, including the placement of statues, monuments, fountains and other items of decoration as may be deemed desirable for the beautification of the Capitol Area.

2. Ordinances and regulations. The ordinances, plans, requirements and proposed improvements of the City of Augusta, including, but not limited to, zoning regulations, population trends, plans for highway development and the desirability of preserving the integrity and aesthetic qualities of Capitol Park.

3. Other factors. Any other factors which bear upon the orderly, integrated and cooperative development by the State and the City of Augusta of property in the area of the State Capitol.

§ 300. Advice and assistance to commission

The commission may request the assistance and advice of any state agency in the development of the master plan. Any state agency receiving such a request shall render such assistance and advice to the commission.

§ 301. Cooperation with city officials

The commission shall inform the City of Augusta of the master plan, and subsequent revisions thereof, and shall make every effort to cooperate with appropriate city officials to the end that the development efforts of the State and the City of Augusta may be integrated and proceed without friction.

§ 302. Submission of plan to Legislature

The commission shall submit the completed plan to the Legislature for adoption as the official state master plan for the development of state buildings and grounds in the Capitol Area.

§ 303. Capitol Area

The area established and described under Title 1, section 814 for acquisition and use by the State is designated as the Capitol Area. The master plan shall be a guide for future state policy in the expansion of the State's physical plant and in the locating of state buildings and other public improvements in the Capitol Area.

§ 304. Approval of construction projects

No construction projects shall be initiated in the Capitol Area for the development of state buildings and grounds following the adoption of the plan by the Legislature without the approval of the commission of the proposals and plans for such projects.

§ 305. Report

The commission shall report biennially to the Legislature facts and recommendations relating to the work and needs of the commission. The report shall list the construction projects initiated, completed and proposed during the next biennium in the Capitol Area since the last report. The commission shall recommend such revisions of the plan as from time to time become necessary or desirable for the orderly development of the Capitol Area.

§ 306. Contributions

The commission may accept gifts, bequests and federal funds for purposes consistent with the objectives of this chapter. Such gifts and bequests shall be used solely to carry out the purposes for which they were made.

§ 307. Interest in contracts prohibited

No member of the commission shall be interested directly or indirectly in any contract or contracts calling for the construction or improvements of facilities, buildings and grounds in the Capitol Area in the City of Augusta.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 27, § 302, amended The 2nd paragraph of section 302 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes is repealed.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Capitol Planning Commission the sum of \$5,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 and the sum of \$5,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

The breakdown shall be as follows :

	1967-68	1968-69
CAPITOL PLANNING COMMISSION		
Personal Services	(1) \$3,000	(1) \$4,000
All Other	2,000	1,000
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	\$5,000	\$5,000