

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 769

S. P. 263

In Senate, February 12, 1971

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Johnson of Somerset.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT to Establish a Maine Library Advisory Committee.

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

Sec. 1. Maine Library Advisory Committee. The Governor shall appoint a Maine Library Advisory Committee consisting of 7 members, 4 to be selected upon combined recommendation of Maine Library Association, Maine School Library Association and Maine Library Trustees Association. Terms shall expire upon adjournment of the 106th Legislature. In case of the termination of a member's service during his term, the Governor shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term under the same conditions as the original appointment. Members shall serve without compensation but shall receive their necessary expenses. Serving as nonvoting, ex officio members shall be the State Librarian and the presidents or representatives of the Maine Library Association, Maine School Library Association and Maine Library Trustees Association.

The committee shall meet and organize and the members shall elect from among themselves a chairman and a secretary.

Sec. 2. Duties. The duties of the committee shall be:

1. To review the studies and recommendations of the Governor's Task Force to Study Library Services;
2. To study existing library laws;
3. To review standards for all types of libraries in conjunction with the appropriate professional groups;

4. To examine the "Standards for Library Functions at the State Level;"
5. To study the changing functions of libraries;
6. To study the funding necessary to support library services adequately; and
7. To propose a state-wide plan for library development and recommend legislation to the 106th Legislature to implement the plan.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Libraries are generally recognized as essential to formal education at all levels, and for the continued education, information and recreation of an enlightened citizenry. Library facilities in the State of Maine are presently inadequate in many respects.

The Governor's Task Force to Study Library Services, organized in September, 1969, and authorized until June 30, 1971, has made a thorough investigation of the present status of library services in the State, its findings have been reported and broad recommendations are in the process of being made. A further analysis and implementation of these recommendations are needed.

A Library Advisory Committee would provide for the continuation of the work of the Governor's Task Force to Study Library Services so that detailed proposals for improvement of state-wide library services may be presented to the 106th Legislature.