

# 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)

---

---

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 1507**

---

---

H. P. 1101

House of Representatives, March 12, 1971

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Donaghy of Lubec.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

---

**AN ACT** Relating to Terms of Department Heads.

---

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, § 3-A, additional.** Title 5 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 3-A to read as follows:

**§ 3-A. Terms of office of department heads.**

The term of office of every department head, appointed by either the Governor or by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council, shall be coterminous with the tenure of the Governor, except that he shall hold office until his successor has been appointed and duly qualified, unless sooner removed in accordance with law.

1. Department head defined. The term "department head," as used in this section, shall be deemed to refer to the following State officials:

- Chairman of the Highway Commission;
- Commissioner of Economic Development;
- Commissioner of Finance and Administration;
- Commissioner of Education;
- Commissioner of Health and Welfare;
- Commissioner of Mental Health and Corrections;
- Chairman of the Employment Security Commission;
- Commissioner of Labor and Industry;

**Bank Commissioner ;**  
**Insurance Commissioner ;**  
**Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission ;**  
**Forest Commissioner ;**  
**Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game ;**  
**Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries ;**  
**Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Department ;**  
**Commissioner of Agriculture.**

**Sec. 2. Transition.** The term of all present department heads shall terminate on December 31, 1971. The Governor or the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council, whichever is appropriate, shall appoint successors to assume office on January 1, 1972.

**Sec. 3. Repeal.** So much of any statute which relates to the term of office of any department head as above defined is repealed as of December 31, 1971.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this legislation is, in the interest of better government, to permit a Governor when he assumes office to appoint the several department heads.