

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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New Draft of: S. P. 497, L. D. 1458

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1830

S. P. 637

In Senate, June 11, 1971

Reported by Senator Johnson of Somerset from Committee on State Government and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to a Department of Consumer Protection.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 10, c. 901, additional. Title 10 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 901 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 901

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

§ 8001. Department; commissioner

There is created and established the Department of Consumer Protection to enhance the consumers' benefits from purchase of goods and services, to protect the interests of depositors, investors and purchasers of insurance in the State of Maine, regulate commercial sports in the public interest, to consist of a Commissioner of Consumer Protection appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council to serve at the pleasure of the Governor and Council, and the following as heretofore created and established: The Department of Banks and Banking, the Department of Insurance, except the Fire Prevention Division thereof, the Division of Consumer Protection of the Department of Agriculture; the Boxing Commission, the Harness Racing Commission, the Running Horse Racing Commission and Real Estate Commission.

Sec. 2. Organization. The Joint Select Special Committee of the Legislature on Governmental Reorganization, with the assistance of the commissioner, shall prepare a plan of organization of the department into such bureaus, divisions and sections as may be necessary to carry out efficiently

the work of the department. The committee, with the assistance of the commissioner, shall prepare legislation to be presented to a special session of the 105th Legislature to amend, repeal and rearrange statutes to reflect this department's powers, responsibilities and organization.

Directors of bureaus shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor and Council.

The commissioner shall prepare a budget for the department in accordance with the Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 149.

The commissioner and the Joint Select Special Committee of the Legislature on Governmental Reorganization may recommend the legislation for the transfer from or to another state department such functions as would appear to properly belong to the other department or to his department. The commissioner shall have no powers or duties relative to the proposed department except those listed in this section.

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act shall become effective 91 days after adjournment of the Legislature.