

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 172

S. P. 70

In Senate, January 16, 1973

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Berry of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT Creating a State Board of Health and Welfare.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 22, c. 1, sub-c. II-A, additional.** Chapter 1 of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new subchapter II-A, to read as follows:

**SUBCHAPTER II-A**

**STATE BOARD OF HEALTH AND WELFARE**

**§ 51. State Board of Health and Welfare**

1. **Board.** There is created a State Board of Health and Welfare which shall consist of 11 members who are residents of Maine and who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council. The membership of the board shall consist of: A physician, a veterinarian, a lawyer, an executive officer of a financial institution, a licensed nurse, a city or town manager, a selectman from a town of less than 800 inhabitants, a representative of an organized low-income group, a retired person who is not or has not been a member of any group mentioned in this subsection and 2 members at large.

2. —**term.** The term of office of each member shall be 5 years, provided that of the members first appointed, 3 shall be appointed for terms of one year, 4 for terms of 2 years and 4 for terms of 5 years.

3. —**compensation.** Each member shall serve without compensation but shall receive necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties.

4. —officers and executive committees. The board shall elect a chairman, a vice-chairman and any other officers it deems necessary. The inspector-general, as defined in section 12, shall be the executive secretary of the board. The board may appoint an executive committee from its membership of at least 5 members who may conduct the business of the board and execute the duties of the board, subject to the approval of the board.

5. —meetings. The board shall meet upon the call of the chairman or in his absence on the call of the vice-chairman.

6. —duties. The board shall have the following duties:

A. To make such investigation of the social and health problems of the State with the aid of the departmental staff as it sees fit. In pursuit of this goal the board has the power of subpoena;

B. To make recommendations to the Legislature for the efficient conduct of the department;

C. To approve all contracts for social, medical, management or research services between the department and governmental or nongovernmental entities;

D. To approve requests made by the department to the Executive Council for transfers of funds as provided in section 45;

E. To present to the Governor a slate of 3 candidates whenever a new commissioner is to be chosen and the Governor shall make his choice from this slate.

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 22, §§ 43 and 44, repealed.** Section 43, as amended by section 1 of chapter 444 and section 44, as amended by section 2 of chapter 444, both of the public laws of 1965, of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes, are repealed.

**Sec. 3. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Health and Welfare, Department of Health and Welfare, the sum of \$17,500 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1973-74	1974-75
HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Board of Health and Welfare		
Personal Services	—	—
All Other	\$7,500	\$10,000
Capital Expenditures	—	—

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the title.