

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 542

S. P. 197

In Senate, February 1, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Schulten of Sagadahoc.

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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 Study Commission on Environmental Laws.**

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

**Sec. 1. Study Commission on Environmental Laws; created.** A Study Commission on Environmental Laws shall be created, consisting of 15 members, including the Commissioner of Environmental Protection; the Commissioner of Commerce and Industry; 9 members appointed by the Governor, who shall include representatives of industry, labor, conservation, real estate and law; 2 members appointed by the Speaker, who shall be Members of the House of Representatives; and 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate, who shall be Members of the Senate.

The Governor shall appoint a chairman of the study commission from among its members. The study commission shall have the power to employ a director, legal counsel and such other consultative and clerical services as may be needed to carry out the study. The study commission shall have the power to obtain such office space, supplies and equipment as may be needed in connection with its work. The study commission shall have the power to seek and accept funds from the Federal Government and private foundations to enable it to complete its work. The study commission shall complete its study and submit its recommendations to the Governor and to the Legislature on or before January 1, 1975.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$50,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. Any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall be carried for-

ward as a continuing account until the purpose of this Act has been accomplished.

### STATEMENT OF FACT

The environment of the State of Maine is of primary importance to the citizens of Maine. Various laws have been passed to protect the environment, which may have overlapping and conflicting provisions. A study should be instituted to the end that the citizens of Maine have their environment protected to the greatest possible degree without precluding reasonable and compatible development.