

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1977

S. P. 642

In Senate May 29, 1973

Reported by Senator Cummings of Penobscot from Committee on Natural Resources and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

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STATE OF MAINE

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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 20 members, including the Commissioner of Environmental Protection; the Commissioner of Commerce and Industry; 5 members appointed by the Governor, who shall include representatives of industry, labor, conservation, real estate and law; and the 13 members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Natural Resources.

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 forward 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.