

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 903**

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H. P. 728

House of Representatives, March 5, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Berube of Lewiston.

Cosponsor: Mrs. Lewis of Auburn.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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### AN ACT to Establish the American and Canadian Exchange Commission.

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

**Sec. 1. Commission established.** There is established the American and Canadian Exchange Commission to consist of 7 members at least 4 of whom shall be fluent in the French language and all of whom shall be citizens of this State. The members of this commission shall be appointed by the Governor to serve terms of 7 years each. The Governor shall designate one of the members as chairman and shall fill vacancies for the unexpired term. Upon the expiration of the term of any member, the Governor shall fill that vacancy by appointment or reappointment. Members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at the rate then current for state employees out of any funds available under section 3.

**Sec. 2. Duties.** The commission shall encourage the strengthening of all areas of regional cooperation with the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick, and with the Maritime Provinces, and shall particularly encourage economic, cultural and educational exchanges between Maine and these provinces.

**Sec. 3. Funds.** The commission is authorized to accept any gifts, grants or donations from the Government of the United States or from private sources, and shall expend those funds to further the purposes of this Act.

**Sec. 4. Director and secretary.** The commission is authorized to employ a director and a secretary at those salaries and with those benefits which it may determine, and to compensate them using funds acquired under section 3.

**Sec. 5. Reports.** The commission shall report semiannually to the Governor and Legislature.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill creates the American and Canadian Exchange Commission, the duties of which shall be to encourage the strengthening of regional cooperation between Maine and her neighboring Canadian provinces, and to encourage economic, cultural and educational exchanges between Maine and her neighboring Canadian provinces. This commission shall be funded from federal and private sources.