

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2190

H. P. 2008

House of Representatives, February 6, 1976

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Goodwin of Bath.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT Creating the Maine Commission for Women.

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA Pt. 17, c. 371, is enacted to read:

PART 17

STATUS OF WOMEN

CHAPTER 371

MAINE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

§ 7021. Commission established

In order to promote, carry out and coordinate programs designed to improve opportunities for women in the State, there is established an independent commission to be known as the Maine Commission for Women, hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the "commission."

§ 7022. Membership

The commission shall consist of 17 members, including 9 appointed by the Governor, 4 appointed by the President of the Senate and 4 appointed by the Speaker of the House. In making these appointments to the commission, the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall consider and appoint residents of the State who have a knowledge of problems facing Maine women and who provide leadership in programs or activities which are carried out to improve opportunities for women. The members of the commission, chosen from throughout the State, shall include but not

be limited to representatives of minority, low income, youth and elderly groups.

§ 7023. Term of office

Members shall be appointed for 2-year terms, except of those members first appointed, 5 appointed by the Governor, 2 appointed by the President of the Senate and 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House shall be appointed for 2-year terms, and the remainder shall be appointed for one-year terms. The term of office of each member shall be designated at the time of appointment.

Members may serve after the expiration of their terms until their successors have taken office. The Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House may terminate the membership of their respective appointees for good and just cause and the reason for the termination shall be communicated in writing to each member whose term is so terminated. The appointment of any member of the commission shall be terminated if the member is absent from 3 consecutive meetings without communicating good and just cause to the chairman.

§ 7024. Vacancies

Members appointed to fill vacancies occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which their predecessor was appointed shall serve only for the remainder of that term and shall be appointed by the same person who appointed their predecessor. Any vacancy on the commission shall not affect its powers.

§ 7025. Chairman

The Governor shall select from among the members a chairman, who shall be a woman and a vice-chairman, both of whom shall serve for one year. These selections shall be made each year prior to the first meeting of the commission. The chairman is authorized to appoint subcommittees.

§ 7026. Powers and duties

The commission shall have the powers and duties to advise and consult with the Governor and the Legislature about and to assist them in improving opportunities for Maine women by:

1. Research. Carrying out research programs which are necessary to determine the status of Maine women;
2. Activities. Promoting and coordinating activities on state and local levels designed to meet the problems of women;
3. Advocate. Serving as an advocate for Maine women by making recommendations on proposed budgetary, legislative and policy actions to the Governor, Legislature and to other officials of State and Federal Government with respect to state and federal policies, programs and other activities affecting or relating to the women of Maine;
4. Information. Informing the public about the presence or absence of opportunities for Maine women;

5. Meetings. Conducting public hearings, conferences, workshops and other such meetings to obtain information about, discuss and publicize the needs of and solutions to problems of women; and

6. Reports. Making a biennial report to the Governor and Legislature concerning the work and interests of the commission.

§ 7027. Meetings; compensation

The commission shall meet at the call of the chairman and not less than 4 times during each year. Members shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in the work of the commission at the same rate as state employees.

§ 7028. Staff; funding

Th commission is authorized to employ staff and consultants, and to accept and use any funding available to it in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 1, first ¶, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 793, § 1, is amended to read:

It shall also include the Committee on Children and Youth, ~~the Governor's Advisory Council on the Status of Women~~ the Maine Committee on Aging and the Maine Human Services Council.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Maine Commission for Women the sum of \$4,200 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1976-77

MAINE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

All Other

\$4,200

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act creates the Maine Commission for Women which is responsible for promoting, carrying out and coordinating programs and activities to improve opportunities for women in Maine. This independent commission consists of members appointed by both the Governor and the Legislature.