

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 2356**

H. P. 2358

House of Representatives, April 26, 1976

Approved for Introduction by a Majority of the Committee on Reference of Bills pursuant to Joint Order S. P. 635, as amended.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Martin of Eagle Lake.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

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**AN ACT to Revise Provision for Chairman of the Commission on  
Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Legislature has created a Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices; and

Whereas, provisions for selection of a chairman are unnecessarily restrictive and generally considered unworkable as presently written; and

Whereas, corrective legislation is vitally needed for the proper establishment of this important function; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1.** 1 MRSA § 1002, sub-§ 1, ¶ C, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 621, § 1, is amended to read:

**C.** The 6 members so appointed shall, by an affirmative vote of at least 5 members, elect a 7th member, ~~who shall act as chairman, and~~ who shall serve a term of 2 years, or until his successor is appointed and qualified.

**Sec. 2.** 1 **MRSA § 1002, sub-§ 1**, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 621, § 1, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

**The commission shall elect a chairman who shall serve as such at the pleasure of the commission.**

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall be effective when approved and shall be retroactive to January 1, 1976.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.