

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document
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No. 1198

7 H.P. 919
8

House of Representatives, March 15, 1983

9 Submitted by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services
pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

10 Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Soucy of Kittery.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Crouse of Washburn, Representative Murphy
of Kennebunk and Representative Brown of Gorham.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Designate the Director of
18 Area Reference and Resource Centers as
19 Permanent, Nonvoting Members of the Maine
20 Library Commission.
21

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

24 27 MRSA §111, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1973, c.
25 626, §6, is amended to read:

26 1. Maine Library Commission. There shall be cre-
27 ated within the Department of Educational and Cul-
28 tural Services a library commission which shall be
29 designated as the Maine Library Commission. It shall
30 consist of 15 members appointed by the Governor. The
31 library commission shall be broadly representative of
32 the state's libraries and shall consist of a repre-
33 sentative from public, school, academic, special,
34 institutional and handicapped libraries, a trustee

1 representative, one representative from each of the
2 library districts as they are formed and 3 repre-
3 sentatives from the State at large of whom one shall
4 be representative of the disadvantaged.

5 The term of each appointed member shall be 5 years or
6 until his successor is appointed and qualified. Of
7 the members first appointed, 3 shall be for one year,
8 3 for 2 years, 3 for 3 years, 3 for 4 years and 3 for
9 5 years. Subsequent appointments shall be for the
10 full term of 5 years. No members shall serve more
11 than 2 successive terms. In the case of a vacancy
12 other than the expiration of a term, the appointment
13 of a successor shall be made in like manner for the
14 balance of the term.

15 In addition to the 15 appointed members, the direc-
16 tors of the area reference and resource centers shall
17 serve as permanent, nonvoting ex officio members of
18 the Maine Library Commission.

19 The commission shall meet at least 4 times a year. It
20 shall elect a chairman for a term of 2 years and
21 frame and modify bylaws for its internal organization
22 and operation. The State Librarian shall serve as
23 secretary to the commission. The members of the com-
24 mission shall serve without compensation, but shall
25 be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the perfor-
26 mance of their duties.

27 STATEMENT OF FACT

28 Representation from the directors of the area
29 reference and resource centers is vital if the Maine
30 Library Commission is to perform its proper role.
31 The commission advises the Commissioner of Educa-
32 tional and Cultural Services regarding the operation
33 of the regional library system. The system is struc-
34 tured around the 3 area reference and resource cen-
35 ters located at the Maine State Library and the
36 Bangor and Portland public libraries. The operation
37 of the system is often inseparable from the operation
38 of the area reference and resource centers. The area
39 reference and resource center directors provide the

1 commission with valuable advice and direction from
2 which decisions regarding the performance of the
3 regional system are made. The nonvoting ex officio
4 status for the area reference and resource center
5 directors would allow them to contribute continuous
6 input into the decision-making process without being
7 part of it, i.e., a voting member whose term will
8 eventually expire.

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