

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1544

(Filing No. S- 210)

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
112TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 587, L.D. 1544, Bill, "AN ACT to Establish Legislative Council Oversight of Expenditures for Joint Standing Committees, Joint Select Committees and Legislative Investigating Committees."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'3 MRSA §162, sub-§8, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 590, §4, is amended to read:

8. Oversight of legislative appropriations and accounts. To oversee the appropriations and other financial accounts of the Legislature and of all legislative agencies, departments and offices. Appropriations for carrying out the purposes of this chapter shall be made annually by the Legislature. All appropriations or allocations by the Legislature for specific studies to be carried out by the joint standing committees or joint select committees shall not lapse but shall be carried forward and expended for the purpose for which the appropriation or allocation was made. The balance of any appropriation or allocation for such studies that is not fully expended shall be refunded to the Legislature.

The Legislative Council shall establish budgets and provide sufficient money from the Legislative Account for studies to be conducted by joint standing committees, joint select committees and investigatory committees of the Legislature. The budgets, at a minimum, shall include the following items:

A. Per diem compensation, if any, for each mem-

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 587, L.D. 1544

1 ber;

2 B. Expense reimbursement, to include travel and
3 meals;

4 C. The number of meetings for which per diem
5 compensation or expense reimbursement shall be
6 made;

7 D. Expenses authorized for the printing of re-
8 ports;

9 E. Consulting fees and other fees for which con-
10 tracts are authorized; and

11 F. Staff costs, if not provided by the staff
12 agencies of the Legislature.

13 The Legislative Council shall provide money suffi-
14 cient to enable the committees to reasonably conduct
15 and complete the requirements of the studies. In de-
16 termining the budgets, the Legislative Council shall
17 consider the degree of difficulty of the tasks to be
18 performed, the number of committee members and the
19 number of meetings necessary to satisfactorily com-
20 plete the tasks.

21 The Legislative Council may approve or disapprove
22 studies, excluding studies approved by the Legisla-
23 ture requested by the joint standing committees of
24 the Legislature or individual Legislators;

D. OF R.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 587, L.D. 1544

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 The purpose of this amendment is to allow the
3 Legislative Council sufficient flexibility to oversee
4 expenditures of committees of the Legislature and
5 sufficient guidelines of expenditures for committees
6 to follow in the conduct of their studies. The Leg-
7 islative Council is required to establish budgets for
8 the conduct of each study.

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Reported by Senator Kany for the Committee on State Government.
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