

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 626

S.P. 232

In Senate, March 9, 1987

Reference to the Committee on Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate  
Presented by President PRAY of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Senator PERKINS of Hancock, Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Representative CARROLL of Gray.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1                   Resolve, to Establish a New Commission on  
2                   Maine's Future.  
3

4                   Commission on Maine's Future. Resolved: That  
5 there is created and established a Commission on  
6 Maine's Future, in this resolve referred to as the  
7 "commission." It shall be the responsibility of the  
8 commission to recommend a desirable and feasible de-  
9 scription of the State's future, including an inte-  
10 grated and progressive plan for reaching the goals  
11 contained in that description. The description and  
12 plan shall be based upon comprehensive analysis of  
13 factual information and projections pertinent to the  
14 description and plan. The commission may use the  
15 technical expertise of the State Planning Office and  
16 the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis to construct  
17 models and identify parameters to be used in deter-  
18 mining the best long-range goals of the State. These

1 findings shall be articulated into a working docu-  
2 ment; and be it further

3       **Members of the commission. Resolved:** That the  
4 Commission on Maine's Future shall consist of 40 mem-  
5 bers. The Director of the State Planning Office and  
6 19 members shall be appointed by the Governor. The  
7 19 members shall be apportioned among the planning  
8 and development districts established pursuant to the  
9 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30, section 4521, ac-  
10 cording to relative population shares. Each county  
11 shall have at least one representative. There shall  
12 be 20 members, 10 appointed by the President of the  
13 Senate and 10 appointed by the Speaker of the House.  
14 The members appointed by the President of the Senate  
15 and the Speaker of the House shall be chosen to re-  
16 flect a geographic balance.

17       The Governor shall appoint the chairman of the  
18 commission from the membership and the chairman shall  
19 serve at the Governor's pleasure. The commission has  
20 a legislated lifetime until September 1, 1988, and  
21 all appointed members shall serve terms which expire  
22 on that date. Any vacancy in membership on the com-  
23 mission shall be filled by the appointing authority  
24 authorized to appoint the member whose position has  
25 become vacant; and be it further

26       **Duties of the commission. Resolved:** That the  
27 duties of the commission are to prepare for consider-  
28 ation by the Governor, the Legislature and the people  
29 of Maine:

30       1. A proposed growth and development policy for  
31 the State and step-by-step recommendations concerning  
32 means to most effectively implement the policy;

33       2. Reports assembling, analyzing and projecting  
34 relevant information regarding the future of the  
35 State, including, but not limited to:

36       A. Statewide and regional demographic informa-  
37 tion on growth, interstate and intrastate migra-  
38 tion patterns, age distribution and dependency  
39 ratios as factors in the cultural, social and ec-  
40 onomic life of the State;

- 1 B. Availability of various natural resources,  
2 including energy, and an analysis of their impor-  
3 tance to, and effect upon, the cultural, social  
4 and economic life of the State; and
- 5 C. A description of the future of the State as  
6 envisioned by its people;
- 7 3. An examination of long-range plans by state  
8 departments and agencies, including the University of  
9 Maine System, and an assessment of their possible im-  
10 pact on state growth and development;
- 11 4. Reports on the implications of major state  
12 decisions;
- 13 5. An interim report on commission activities to  
14 be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature not  
15 later than June 1, 1988;
- 16 6. A formal final report on commission activi-  
17 ties to be submitted to the Governor and the Legisla-  
18 ture not later than September 1, 1988.

19 In the performance of its duties, the commission  
20 may hold public hearings and conferences with any  
21 person, persons, organizations and governmental agen-  
22 cies concerned with Maine's future. The commission  
23 shall be provided information, reports or other as-  
24 sistance from any agency, department, legislative  
25 committee or other instrumentality of the State, with  
26 the consent of the head of the respective organiza-  
27 tion. State agencies shall, on request, assist the  
28 commission in carrying out the purposes of this re-  
29 solve; and be it further

30 **Compensation. Resolved:** That legislative mem-  
31 bers of the commission shall receive legislative per  
32 diem. All other members shall receive expenses only;  
33 and be it further

34 **Funding. Resolved:** That the commission is au-  
35 thorized to accept and employ any funding available  
36 to it carry out the purpose of this resolve.

1

STATEMENT OF FACT

2       The purpose of this resolve is to recreate a Com-  
3 mission on Maine's Future. The original Commission  
4 on Maine's Future was enacted in 1973 and came into  
5 existence in the spring of 1975. Its final report of  
6 December 1, 1977, contained numerous policy recommen-  
7 dations for the State to follow. The recommendations  
8 concerned the accumulation and use of data, creation  
9 of a public policy institute and analysis of popula-  
10 tion trends and policy recommendations regarding nat-  
11 ural resources, the environment, energy, transporta-  
12 tion, economic development, education, human needs,  
13 housing, health and government.

14       Since 1977, the State has changed drastically and  
15 technology has advanced beyond what most people could  
16 have imagined even just 10 years ago.

17       Because of these changes, a new Commission on  
18 Maine's Future may be even more important than it was  
19 in 1975. The resolve is modeled closely after the  
20 original legislation and directs the commission to  
21 develop a step-by-step plan to implement what it  
22 finds to be desirable goals for the State. A shorter  
23 time period is proposed because the earlier commis-  
24 sion has already established a model for the gather-  
25 ing of information.

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