

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 1503

H.P. 1081

House of Representatives, May 5, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative WHITCOMB of Waldo.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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Resolve, Creating a Commission to Study Commodity Taxes on  
Farmers.

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(EMERGENCY)



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

5           Whereas, it is desirable that this item be resolved by the  
Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature; and

7  
9           Whereas, this is an issue requiring study by the various  
industries in this State; and

11           Whereas, unless this legislation is passed on an emergency  
basis, this study will not be able to begin until September 1989;  
13 and

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

21           **Sec. 1. Commission created and charged. Resolved:** That the  
Commission to Study Commodity Taxes on Farmers is hereby  
23 established. The commission shall study the fairness of the  
taxes, how the money collected is used, who benefits from the  
25 money collected from the taxes imposed and the boards that  
control the funds collected; and be it further

27  
29           **Sec. 2. Membership; appointment. Resolved:** That the  
commission shall be comprised of the following 13 members: four  
Legislators, 2 of whom shall be Senators to be appointed by the  
31 President of the Senate and 2 of whom shall be members of the  
House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the  
33 House of Representatives; one from the Department of Agriculture,  
Food and Rural Resources, to be appointed by the commissioner;  
35 and 8 public members appointed by the Commissioner of  
Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, including one member from  
37 the blueberry industry, one member from the potato industry, one  
member from the sardine industry, one member from the fertilizer  
39 industry, one member from the quahog industry, 2 members from the  
dairy industry, one a dealer and one a producer, and one member  
41 from the tobacco industry; and be it further

43           **Sec. 3. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the  
commission who are Legislators shall receive the legislative per  
45 diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section  
2, for days in attendance at commission meetings. All members of  
47 the commission, except employees of the State, shall receive  
reimbursement for expenses upon application to the Legislative  
49 Council; and be it further

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**Sec. 4. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, if assistance is desired, the commission may request necessary staff assistance from the Legislative Council; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Report. Resolved:** That, the commission shall submit a report, together with any legislative recommendations, to the Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature by December 1, 1989; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

**1989-90**

**LEGISLATURE**

**Study Commission - Funding**

All Other \$5,000

Provides funds for expenses for the per diem, meetings and related expenses.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve shall take effect when approved.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This resolve creates a commission to study commodity taxes on farmers.