

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1737

H.P. 1244

House of Representatives, June 12, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative WHITCOMB of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Representative TARDY of Palmyra and Senator EMERSON of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, to Establish the Commission on Maine's Food Policy.



1 **Preamble.** Whereas, the Legislature, by Resolve 1983, chapter
3 51, created a food policy for Maine which sought to establish and
5 encourage increased food production and distribution practices
7 designed to ensure a safe, wholesome, nutritious and adequate
9 food supply for the citizens of the State. Since the adoption of
 the food policy resolve, many conditions and circumstances have
 changed and the policy therefore requires periodic review and
 modification as well as a formal organization to promote the
 implementation of the policy; now, therefore, be it

11 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission
13 on Maine's Food Policy is established which shall monitor the
15 implementation of the State's food policy, make recommendations
17 to the Legislature and public organizations involved in food
 issues and periodically review the food policy and make
 recommendations concerning the need for modifications to the
 Legislature; and be it further

19 **Sec. 2. Membership; structure; terms. Resolved:** That the
21 commission shall consist of 13 members as follows.

23 1. The following shall serve as ex officio members:

25 A. The Commission of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources;

27 B. The Director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment
 Station;

29 C. One member of the Joint Standing Committee on
31 Agriculture to be designated by that committee; and

33 D. The Commissioner of Marine Resources.

35 2. The President of the Senate shall appoint one member
37 with knowledge of and experience with marketing issues; one
39 member with knowledge of and experience with nutrition and health
 issues; and one member with knowledge of and experience in farm
 and rural economics, rural development and agricultural finance.

41 3. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
43 appoint one member with knowledge of and experience in the area
45 of rural community needs, local support structures and land-use
 issues; one member with knowledge of and experience with consumer
 issues; and one member with knowledge of and experience with
 agricultural issues.

47 4. The Governor shall appoint 3 members representing the
49 various areas of knowledge and experience set out in subsections
 2 and 3.

51 5. A chair shall be selected by the entire commission from

1 the group of appointed members. No ex officio member may be
2 eligible to serve as chair except that, until the chair is
3 selected, the member from the Joint Standing Committee on
4 Agriculture shall serve as chair pro tempore.

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6. Terms of office for appointed members shall be for 3
7 years except that, for the initial appointed members, one of the
8 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
9 one of the members appointed by the President of the Senate and
10 one of the members appointed by the Governor shall serve for
11 terms of one year; and be it further

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13 **Sec. 3. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission may create
14 subcommittees for the purpose of examining particular issues.
15 The commission shall be responsible for monitoring the progress
16 and implementing the State's food policy, as currently stated in
17 Resolve 1983, chapter 51, and as modified from time to time by
18 the Legislature. The commission shall hold hearings and
19 conferences, undertake studies and solicit public input as
20 necessary to enable the commission to make recommendations
21 concerning long-term directions and goals in the area of food
22 policy. The commission shall also make recommendations
23 concerning improved means of communication, enabling better
24 implementation of the food policy and may undertake such actions
25 as it determines necessary to increase public awareness of food
26 production and food policy issues. The commission shall prepare
27 and submit an annual report to the Joint Standing Committee on
28 Agriculture which must contain a review of the commission's
29 activities for the year as well as any recommendations to the
30 Legislature for changes to the State's food policy or
31 recommendations for the enactment or modification of state laws;
32 and be it further

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34 **Sec. 4. Final report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit
35 its final report, including any necessary implementing
36 legislation, to the 115th Legislature by January 1, 1992; and be
37 it further

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39 **Sec. 5. Staff. Resolved:** That staff shall be supplied by the
40 Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and
41 additional support shall be furnished by the State Planning
42 Office; and be it further

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44 **Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved:** That the legislative members
45 of the commission shall receive the legislative per diem and all
46 other members shall receive reimbursement for expenses only; and
47 be it further

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49 **Sec. 7. Funding. Resolved:** That the Commission on Maine's
50 Food Policy may accept revenues from any source and may use any
51 such revenues to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This resolve establishes the Commission on Maine's Food Policy to monitor the State's food policy as articulated in Resolve 1983, chapter 51; to make recommendations to the Legislature and public organizations involved in food issues; and to periodically review and make recommendations concerning changes to the state food policy. The commission shall submit its final report by January 1, 1992.