

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

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Legislative Document

No. 2326

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S.P. 920

In Senate, February 16, 1990

Reported by Senator KANY of Kennebec for the Commission on Maine's Future pursuant to Resolve 1987, chapter 60 and Resolve 1989, chapter 3.

Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

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STATE OF MAINE

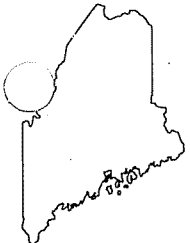
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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

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Resolve, to Create the Maine Commission on Environmental Policy .

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2           **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Maine  
Commission on Environmental Policy is established; and be it  
further

4           **Sec. 2. Commission membership; chair. Resolved:** That the  
6           commission consists of the following 13 members:

8           1. Three members appointed by the President of the Senate,  
not more than one of whom may be a Legislator, and not more than  
10          one of whom may be employed by the State;

12          2. Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
Representatives, not more than one of whom may be a Legislator,  
14          and not more than one of whom may be employed by the State;

16          3. Six members appointed by the Governor, not more than one  
of whom may be a Legislator, and not more than one of whom may be  
18          employed by the State; and

20          4. One member appointed by the other 12 commission members  
who shall serve as the chair; and be it further

22           **Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all  
24           appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the  
effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the  
26           Legislative Council must be notified by the Governor, and the  
Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the  
28           Senate, when the selections have been made. The Chair of the  
Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the  
30           commission, at which time, the commission may appoint the 13th  
and final commission member; and be it further

32           **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall undertake  
34           a study of existing state environmental policies with a primary  
goal of consolidating and updating those policies into a  
36           comprehensive body of policy that recognizes the cumulative  
effects of changes to the environment and the impact of those  
38           changes on the quality of life and defines minimum standards for  
responsible individual, governmental and corporate activity. As  
40           part of the study, the commission shall:

42          1. Examine the laws administered by the Department of  
Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation  
44          Commission, as well as local environmental mandates, as they  
create and affect environmental policy;

46          2. Develop a plan that unifies environmental policy making  
48          and planning functions within state agencies and separates those  
functions from regulatory and enforcement functions;

50          3. Recommend a plan that facilitates separate planning and  
52          permits review functions at the local level;

2 4. Propose methods by which environmental policies are made  
4 more explicit;

6 5. Examine ways of aligning environmental decision-making  
8 boundaries with watersheds and ecological systems, and avoiding  
10 sources of nonpoint source pollution;

12 6. Evaluate the carrying capacities of such limits to  
14 growth as water, waste, transportation and other environmental  
16 systems;

18 7. Examine the impact on the quality of life of  
20 environmental issues such as open space, the protection of local  
22 and regional visual landscapes and the social coherence of  
24 established neighborhoods, communities and institutions; and

26 8. Evaluate methods to integrate, on a consistent basis,  
28 the values of the people of this State into the formulation of  
30 environmental policy.

32 In the performance of its duties, the commission may hold  
34 public hearings and conferences with any person, persons,  
36 organizations or governmental agencies. The commission shall be  
38 provided information, reports or other assistance from any  
40 agency, department, legislative committee or other  
42 instrumentality of the State, with the consent of the head of the  
44 respective organization. State agencies shall, upon request,  
46 assist the commission in carrying out the purposes of this  
48 resolve; and be it further

50 **Sec. 5. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit  
52 its report, together with any enabling legislation to the  
Legislature by December 1, 1991; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the commission may  
contract with a research assistant to provide professional  
services as primary staff. The chair of the commission shall  
manage the research assistant's work. The research assistant  
shall provide clerical assistance and prepare any legislation  
recommended by the commission; and be it further

**Sec. 7. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the members of the  
commission who are Legislators are entitled to receive the  
legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,  
Title 3, section 2, for days of attendance at commission  
meetings. All members of the commission who are not state  
employees receive expenses, as defined in the Maine Revised  
Statutes, Title 5, section 12002, upon application to the  
Executive Director of the Legislative Council for those expenses;  
and be it further

2           **Sec. 8. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are  
3 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of  
4 this resolve.

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1990-91

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,  
DEPARTMENT OF**

**Maine Commission on Environmental Policy**

Personal Services	\$1,980
All Other	44,350

Provides funds for the per diem, travel and related expenses of the Maine Commission on Environmental Policy. Also provides funds for contractual staff assistance. These funds may not lapse but must be carried forward to June 30, 1992.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**TOTAL** \$46,330

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This is one of 8 bills containing the recommendations of the Commission on Maine's Future. This resolve establishes the Maine Commission on Environmental Policy. The commission will study and consolidate existing state environmental policies into a comprehensive body of policy that recognizes the cumulative effects of changes to the environment on Maine's quality of life, defines minimum standards for responsible individual, governmental and corporate activity, and incorporates, on a continuing basis, the environmental policy values of the people of Maine.