

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 774

S.P. 292

Received by the Secretary, February 21, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Utilities suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President PRAY of Penobscot
Cosponsored by Representative LORD of Waterboro.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

**Resolve, to Establish the Commission on Electric Utilities and
Long-range Energy Production Planning.**

(EMERGENCY)

Printed on recycled paper



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

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6 Whereas, the State is faced with immediate and growing
energy needs; and

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10 Whereas, this resolve establishes a state commission to
study electric utilities and long-range energy production
planning; and

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14 Whereas, the study must be initiated before the 90-day
period expires in order that the study can be completed and a
report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative
session; and

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

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24 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission
on Electric Utilities and Long-range Energy Production Planning
is established; and be it further

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28 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission
consists of the following 15 members: three Senators, appointed
by the President of the Senate, one of whom must be a member of
30 the minority party; 3 members of the House of Representatives,
appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of
32 whom must be a member of the minority party; the Director of the
State Planning Office; the Chair of the Public Utilities
34 Commission; the Public Advocate; the Commissioner of Economic and
Community Development; and the Commissioner of Environmental
36 Protection. Additional members, appointed jointly by the
President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
38 Representatives, must include one member representing an
environmental organization, one member representing a utility
40 company, one member representing a nonutility electric generator
and one member representing a nongenerator business interest.
42 The members of the commission shall elect a chair, who must be a
legislative member; and be it further

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46 **Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all
appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the
effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the
48 Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing
authorities once the selections have been made. The Chair of the
50 Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the
commission; and be it further

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2 **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall develop a
3 long-range plan for the production of electricity within the
4 State. The plan must include:

5 1. An assessment of the future demand for energy in the
6 State under a variety of scenarios regarding energy prices and
7 anticipated conservation and cogeneration measures;

8 2. A study of the various options available to the State to
9 meet growing energy needs, including, but not limited to,
10 conservation, cogeneration, small power production, purchases
11 from Canada and utility-sponsored generation. This study should
12 examine for each option its predicted price, reliability and
13 environmental impact within the State;

14 3. An analysis of the State's energy situation in the
15 context of regional power arrangements and agreements;

16 4. An examination of the existing transmission capacities
17 within this State and the rest of New England, including
18 availability, pricing, accessibility and reliability. This
19 examination should identify transmission bottlenecks and suggest
20 strategies and policies to address them; and

21 5. Recommendations to the Governor and to the Legislature
22 based on the findings of the commission; and be it further

23 **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the State Planning
24 Office shall staff the commission. The commission may request
25 additional staff assistance from state agencies represented on
26 the commission; and be it further

27 **Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the members of the
28 commission who are Legislators are entitled to receive the
29 legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,
30 Title 3, section 2, for each day's attendance at commission
31 hearings; and be it further

32 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit
33 its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation,
34 to the Second Regular Session of the 115th Legislature no later
35 than November 1, 1991; and be it further

36 **Sec. 8. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are
37 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of
38 this resolve.

1991-92

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

State Planning Office

Personal Services	\$26,500
All Other	4,200
Capital Expenditures	2,500

Provides funds for a 9-month Senior Planner position on a project basis to staff the Commission on Electric Utilities and Long-range Energy Production Planning.

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
TOTAL**

\$33,200

LEGISLATURE

**Commission on Electric Utilities
and Long-range Energy
Production Planning**

Personal Services	\$2,640
All Other	6,000

Provides funds for the per diem, travel and related expenses of the Commission on Electric Utilities and Long-range Energy Production Planning.

**LEGISLATURE
TOTAL**

\$8,640

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS

\$41,840

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

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This resolve establishes the Commission on Electric Utilities and Long-range Energy Production Planning to study the electric utility needs in the State and to develop a long-range plan for the production of electricity within the State.