

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1449

S.P. 545

In Senate, April 8, 1991

Reported by Senator KANY of Kennebec for the Commission on Maine's Future pursuant to Resolve 1987, chapter 60, Resolve 1989, chapter 3 and Resolve 1989, chapter 72.

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

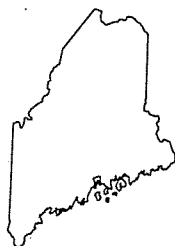
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, to Create the Maine Commission on Environmental Policy.



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

4
6 **Sec. 2. Commission membership; chair. Resolved:** That the
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, the
President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
28 Representatives 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
more explicit;
- 4
- 6 5. Examine ways of aligning environmental decision-making
boundaries with watersheds and ecological systems and ways of
avoiding sources of nonpoint source pollution;
- 8
- 10 6. Evaluate the carrying capacities of such limits to
growth as water, waste, transportation and other environmental
systems;
- 12
- 14 7. Examine the impact on the quality of life of such
environmental issues as open space, the protection of local and
regional visual landscapes and the social coherence of
established neighborhoods, communities and institutions; and
- 16
- 18 8. Evaluate methods to integrate, on a consistent basis,
the values of the people of this State into the formulation of
environmental policy.
- 20

22 In the performance of its duties, the commission may hold
public hearings and conferences with any person, persons,
24 organizations or governmental agencies. The commission shall be
provided information, reports or other assistance from any
26 agency, department, legislative committee or other
instrumentality of the State, with the consent of the head of the
28 respective organization. State agencies shall, upon request,
assist the commission in carrying out the purposes of this
30 resolve; and be it further

32 **Sec. 5. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit
its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation,
34 to the Second Regular Session of the 115th Legislature no later
than November 1, 1992; and be it further

36

38 **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
40 manage the research assistant's work. The research assistant
shall provide clerical assistance and prepare any legislation
42 recommended by the commission; and be it further

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

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