

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1557

H.P. 1068

House of Representatives, April 16, 1991

Reported by Representative COLES 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 Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 18.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Provide for a Decennial Commission on Maine's Future.



Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§77-A is enacted to read:

<u>77-A. State</u>	<u>Decennial</u>	<u>Legisla-</u>	<u>5 MRSA</u>
<u>Planning</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>tive per</u>	<u>§15151</u>
	<u>on Maine's</u>	<u>diem and</u>	
	<u>Future</u>	<u>expenses</u>	

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA c. 405 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 405

DECENNIAL COMMISSION ON MAINE'S FUTURE

§15151. Decennial Commission on Maine's Future

1. Decennial Commission on Maine's Future established. The Decennial Commission on Maine's Future, established in section 12004-I, subsection 77-A, convenes in January 1994 and every 10 years thereafter.

2. Commission membership; chair. The commission consists of the following 26 members:

A. Six members appointed by the President of the Senate, not more than 2 of whom may be Legislators and not more than 2 of whom may be employed by the State;

B. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, not more than 2 of whom may be Legislators and not more than 2 of whom may be employed by the State;

C. Twelve members appointed by the Governor, not more than 2 of whom may be Legislators and not more than 2 of whom may be employed by the State; and

D. Two members, who shall serve as the chair and vice-chair, appointed by the other 24 commission members.

3. Appointments; meetings. All appointments must be made no later than January 15th in each year that the commission is convened. The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Governor shall notify the Legislative Council when their selections have been made. The Chair of the Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the commission, at which time the commission may appoint the 2 final commission members. The commission members serve terms that expire 6 months after the submission of their final report to enable the commission to advise the Legislature with respect to the proposals and to follow the implementation of the proposals of the commission.

2 4. Duties of the commission. The duties of the commission
3 are to prepare for consideration by the Governor, the Legislature
4 and the people of the State:

6 A. A proposed growth and development policy for the State
7 and step-by-step recommendations concerning means to most
8 effectively implement the policy;

10 B. Reports assembling, analyzing and projecting relevant
11 information regarding the future of the State, including,
12 but not limited to:

14 (1) Statewide and regional demographic information on
15 growth, interstate and intrastate migration patterns,
16 age distribution and dependency ratios as factors in
17 the cultural, social and economic life of the State; and

18 (2) The availability of various natural resources,
19 including energy, and an analysis of their importance
20 to, and effect on, the cultural, social and economic
21 life of the State;

24 C. An examination of long-range plans by state departments
25 and agencies, including the University of Maine System, and
26 an assessment of the possible impact of those plans on state
27 growth and development;

28 D. Reports on the implications of major state decisions;

30 E. Analyses of current forces and trends in Maine life,
31 estimations of the future effects of these forces and trends
32 and recommendations on methods to mitigate, avoid or
33 encourage various effects;

36 F. An assessment of the long-term goals and guiding
37 principles for the future of the State, as expressed by the
38 previously convened commission, and recommendations of any
39 necessary changes to that vision; and

40 G. An evaluation of the capacity of government and private
41 institutions in the State to anticipate and react to the
42 forces and trends affecting Maine's future and
43 recommendations to enhance that capacity.

46 In the performance of its duties, the commission may hold public
47 hearings and conferences with any person, persons, organizations
48 or governmental agencies concerned with Maine's future. The
49 commission must provided information, reports or other assistance
50 from any agency, department, legislative committee or other
51 instrumentality of the State, with the consent of the head of the
52 respective organization. State agencies shall, upon request,

2 assist the commission in carrying out the purposes of this
3 chapter.

4 5. Report. The commission shall submit its final report to
5 the Governor and to the joint standing committee of the
6 Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government
7 matters no later than 18 months after the commission has
8 convened. The final report must contain any necessary
9 implementing legislation.

10 6. Staff assistance. Prior to the convening of the
11 commission, the State Planning Office shall coordinate the
12 preparation of quantifiable measures of change and forecasts
13 related to the environment, economy, people and government of
14 this State. Upon the convening of the commission, the State
15 Planning Office shall staff the commission to conduct research,
16 prepare reports and draft legislation for the commission.

17 7. Reimbursement. The members of the commission who are
18 Legislators are entitled to the legislative per diem, as defined
19 in Title 3, section 2, for days of attendance at commission
20 meetings. All members of the commission who are not state
21 employees are entitled to expenses, as defined in section 12002,
22 upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative
23 Council for those expenses.

24 STATEMENT OF FACT

25 This is one of 8 bills containing the recommendations of the
26 Commission on Maine's Future. This bill establishes the
27 Decennial Commission on Maine's Future, which will convene every
28 10 years following the publication of each decennial census. The
29 commission will review and recommend changes to the "Maine
30 Vision," analyze forces and trends in Maine life, estimate the
31 future effects of those forces and trends and recommend actions
32 to mitigate, avoid or encourage those various effects. The
33 commission will also review the capacity of government and
34 private institutions in Maine to anticipate and react to the
35 forces and trends affecting Maine's future and recommend actions
36 to enhance that capacity.