

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

---

Legislative Document

No. 1559

H.P. 1070

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

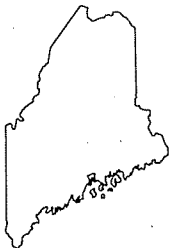
---

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

---

**Resolve, to Create the Commission to Evaluate the Need for Changes in the Responsibilities of State, County and Local Government for the 21st Century.**

---



2           **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission  
to Evaluate the Need for Changes in the Responsibilities of  
State, County and Local Government for the 21st Century is  
4 established; and be it further

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

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

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

16  
18           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  
employed by the State; and

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

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

34           **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall undertake  
a study of the State's rules of local, regional and county  
36 government and State Government, with a primary goal of proposing  
changes that will more closely fit the needs of the 21st  
38 century. As part of the study, the commission shall:

40           1. Review recent studies and analyses of the status of  
State Government and local government;

42  
44           2. Evaluate the current functions and responsibilities of  
State Government and county and local government in this State;

46           3. Identify which of the current functions of each level of  
government are outmoded or ineffectively carried out and which  
48 should be expanded or reassigned to other levels;

50           4. Recommend mechanisms for facilitating town decision  
making and ways to ensure stable funding and accountability;

52

2 5. Review the possible use of new regional boundaries for  
the political subdivisions delivering services; and

4 6. In the performance of its duties, the commission may  
6 hold public hearings and conferences with any person, persons,  
organizations or governmental agencies. Any agency, department,  
8 legislative committee or other instrumentality of the State, with  
the consent of the head of the respective organization, shall  
10 provide the commission with information, reports or other  
assistance. State agencies shall, upon request, assist the  
12 commission in carrying out the purposes of this resolve; and be  
it further

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

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

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

34 **Sec. 8. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated  
36 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

38 1991-92

40 **LEGISLATURE**

42 **Commission to Evaluate the Need for**  
44 **Changes in the Responsibilities of**  
**State, County and Local Government**  
46 **for the 21st Century**

|    |                   |         |
|----|-------------------|---------|
| 48 | Personal Services | \$1,980 |
|    | All Other         | 44,350  |

50 Provides funds for the per diem, travel and  
related expenses of the Commission to

2 Evaluate the Need for Changes in the  
Responsibilities of State, County and Local  
4 Government for the 21st Century. Also  
provides funds for contractual staff  
6 assistance for the period of the study.  
These funds may not lapse but must be  
8 carried forward.

10 **LEGISLATURE**  
**TOTAL**

\$46,330

12

### 14 STATEMENT OF FACT

16

This is one of 8 bills containing the recommendations of the  
Commission on Maine's Future. This resolve establishes the  
Commission to Evaluate the Need for Changes in the  
18 Responsibilities of State, County and Local Government for the  
21st Century. The commission will assess the functions of each  
20 level of government and identify changes necessary to meet the  
needs of the 21st century.

22