

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document


No. 149

H.P. 107

House of Representatives, January 25, 1993

An Act to Foster Cooperative Legislative Oversight of Natural Resource Agencies.

Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOULD of Greenville.

Cosponsored by Representatives ANDERSON of Woodland, DEXTER of Kingfield, Senator VOSE of Washington.

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

4 Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §5016 is enacted to read:

6 **§5016. Legislative consultation**

8 The joint standing committee of the Legislature having
10 jurisdiction over natural resource matters may meet annually in
12 the 30 days following the issuance of the regulatory agenda of
14 the Department of Conservation, including the Maine Land Use
16 Regulation Commission, under Title 5, section 8060 to review and
18 discuss the regulatory agenda. The chairs of the committee shall
20 determine an appropriate date, time and location for the
22 meeting. The commissioner and the chair of the Maine Land Use
24 Regulation Commission shall attend the meeting. The committee
26 chairs, the commissioner and the chair of the commission may
28 agree in advance of the meeting on an agenda to include only
30 those proposed rulemakings that, in their judgment, are of major
32 consequence. Committee members may be reimbursed for direct
34 expenses associated with their attendance at these meetings.

36 Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §342, sub-§15 is enacted to read:

38 **15. Legislative consultation.** The joint standing committee
40 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resource
42 matters may meet annually in the 30 days following the issuance
44 of the regulatory agenda of the Board of Environmental Protection
46 under Title 5, section 8060 to review and discuss the regulatory
agenda. The chairs of the committee shall determine an
appropriate date, time and location for the meeting. The
commissioner and chair of the board shall attend the meeting.
The committee chairs, the commissioner and the chair of the board
may agree in advance of the meeting on an agenda to include only
those proposed rulemakings that, in their judgment, are of major
consequence. Committee members may be reimbursed for direct
expenses associated with their attendance at these meetings.

40 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

42 This bill creates an annual forum for discussion among the
44 Legislature, the Department of Conservation and the Department of
46 Environmental Protection regarding the implementation of
legislation via agency rulemaking. These discussions will allow
exploration of questions of legislative intent prior to the
initiation of formal rulemaking.