

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 872

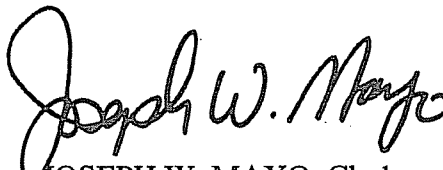
H.P. 641

House of Representatives, March 12, 1993

**An Act to Update and Modify the Appointment Process to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes.**

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative HEINO of Boothbay.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: JALBERT of Lisbon, LOOK of Jonesboro, SPEAR of Nobleboro, Senator: VOSE of Washington.

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

2           **Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §603**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 626, §24,  
4 is further amended to read:

6           **§603. Board of trustees**

8           The administration of the homes is vested in the Board of  
Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes, as authorized by Title 5,  
10 section 12004-G, subsection 34. The board consists of 10  
12 members, one of whom must be the Supervisor of the Division of  
Veterans' Services, ex officio, who ~~shall serve~~ serves without  
14 term. The Governor shall appoint the remaining trustees, who  
must be honorably discharged war veterans. One member must be  
16 appointed from and represent each of the largest veterans'  
organizations, not exceeding 5, that are nationally chartered and  
18 have a department in Maine. The remaining members must be  
appointed at large and shall serve staggered 3-year terms. The  
20 membership must be distributed across the State so that ~~3~~ 2  
reside in the southern part of the State, 3 in the central part  
of the State, one in the western part of the State, one in the  
22 eastern part of the State and 3 2 in the northern part. In the  
event of a vacancy, a successor must be appointed to complete the  
24 unexpired term. Each trustee ~~shall continue~~ continues to hold  
office until a successor is appointed and qualified.

26           **Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §604**, as amended by PL 1987, c. 11, §2, is  
28 further amended to read:

30           **§604. Conduct of board business**

32           **1. Fiscal year.** The board shall adhere to the same fiscal  
year as the State.

34           **2. Meetings.** The board shall meet at least 6 times  
36 annually. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

38           **3. Selection of officers.** At its first annual meeting,  
which shall must be held in July each year, the board shall elect  
40 a ~~chairman~~ chair and secretary for that fiscal year.

42           **4. Special meetings.** Special meetings may be called by  
agreement of a majority of the trustees.

44           **5. Appointment of administrator.** The board shall appoint  
46 an administrator in accordance with section 606.

48           **6. Other funds.** The board may apply for and receive any  
grants-in-aid for which the State or the home may be eligible.

50           **7. Rules.** The board shall adopt rules necessary to  
52 administer the home, to establish just charges for the  
maintenance of members and to oversee the operation of the home.

2 In adopting rules, the board shall seek comments and information  
3 from home staff, members, members' families, members of veterans'  
4 organizations and other relevant sources, but the Maine  
5 Administrative Procedure Act provisions regarding rulemaking,  
6 Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II, shall do not apply.

7 **8. Assistance.** Every department and agency of the State,  
8 when requested, may furnish such assistance, counsel or advice as  
9 the board may require in the discharge of its duties.

10  
11  
12 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

13 This bill alters the geographical distribution required for  
14 the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans'  
15 Homes. The bill also requires that the board, in adopting rules,  
16 seek comments and information from members of veterans'  
17 organizations.  
18