

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1679

H.P. 1226

House of Representatives, January 9, 1996

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Computer Information Systems.

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker GWADOSKY of Fairfield.
Cosponsored by Senator: BUTLAND of Cumberland.

2 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts and resolves of the
Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

4 **Whereas,** the Legislature must immediately review the
6 statutory guidelines concerning the use of the legislative
computer system and review possible inconsistencies in the
8 current law; and

10 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
12 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
14 safety; now, therefore, be it

16 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission
to Study the Use of the Legislative Computer System, referred to
18 in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it
further

20 **Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists
22 of 7 members appointed as follows:

24 1. Three members of the Senate, representing the 2 major
parties and appointed by the President of the Senate;

26 2. Three members of the House of Representatives,
28 representing the 2 major parties and appointed by the Speaker of
the House of Representatives; and

30 3. The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
32 and be it further

34 **Sec. 3. Appointments. Resolved:** That all appointments must be
made no later than 5 days following the effective date of this
36 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive
Director of the Legislative Council upon making their
38 appointments. When the appointment of all members is complete,
the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the
40 first meeting of the commission no later than January 22, 1996.
The commission shall select a chair from among its members; and
42 be it further

44 **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study the
appropriate use of the legislative computer information system.
46 In examining these issues, the commission shall consider the
following:

48 1. The Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1890-B,
50 regarding the use of the legislative computer information system;

2 2. The August 11, 1995 Attorney General memorandum; and

4 3. Current computer use policies as outlined in the
legislative handbooks provided to employees in the Legislature.

6
8 In addition, the commission may request information from
legislative staff familiar with the legislative computer system;
and be it further

10
12 **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council
shall provide, upon request, the commission with staffing and
clerical assistance; and be it further

14
16 **Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That members of the
commission who are Legislators are entitled to receive
legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,
18 Title 3, section 2, for each day's attendance at meetings of the
commission when the Legislature is not in session. All members
20 of the commission who are Legislators are entitled to
reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses, upon
22 application to the Legislative Council. The Executive Director
of the Legislative Council shall administer the commission's
24 budget; and be it further

26 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit
its report with the necessary implementing legislation to the
28 Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature by February 15,
1996; and be it further

30
32 **Sec. 8. Costs. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council must
absorb any costs associated with the commission within its
existing budgeted resources.

34
36 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

38

STATEMENT OF FACT

40

42 This resolve establishes the Commission to Study the Use of
the Legislative Computer System to review the appropriate use of
the Legislative computer information system. The commission is
44 required to issue its report and any necessary legislation by
February 15, 1996.