# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 92

H.P. 67

House of Representatives, January 9, 1997

An Act to Establish State Auditor As an Appointed Position.

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

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative LANE of Enfield.
Cosponsored by Senator AMERO of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, CAMPBELL of Holden, CARLETON of Wells,
KASPRZAK of Newport, MACK of Standish, MERES of Norridgewock, WATERHOUSE of
Bridgton, WINGLASS of Auburn.

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

- Sec. 1. 5 MRSA  $\S19$ , sub- $\S1$ ,  $\PC$ , as enacted by PL 1979, c. 734,  $\S2$ , is amended to read:
  - C. "Elected executive employee" means the constitutional officers and-the-State-Auditer.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §241, as amended by PL 1973, c. 792, §1, is further amended to read:

### §241. State Auditor; salary

The State Auditor shall-be is the head of the Department of Audit\_-as-heretefere-established. He-shall The State Auditor must be a certified public accountant or a college graduate with not less than 6 years of experience as a professional accountant or auditor, including not less than 5 years of auditing experience, of which not less than 4 years shall must have been in a supervisory capacity. He-shall-be-elected The State Auditor must be nominated by the Governor and confirmed by a 2/3 majority of the Legislature voting in convention by a joint ballot of-the Senators - and - Representatives - in - convention - and - shall - held. The term of office for-a-term-of-4 of the State Auditor is 7 years or until--his--successor--is-elected--and--qualified. He The State Auditor shall exercise such the powers and perform such the duties as-are set forth in this chapter. In-ease If the office of State Auditor shall-become becomes vacant during a period when the Legislature is not in session, the appointment of a person to fill such the vacancy shall must be made immediately by the President - of - the -- Senate - or - if -- that - office - be -- vacant / - by -- the Speaker-of-the-House, -said-person-to-hold-office Governor until such -- time -- as the Legislature shall -- meet meets in regular or special session, and--either--confirm--the--appointment--ef--said person-or-choose-another-person-to-fill-the-office-during-the unexpired-term at which time the Legislature shall vote on the person appointed as provided in this section. If the Legislature fails to confirm the nomination, the office becomes vacant until a gubernatorial nominee is confirmed by the Legislature to fill the office during the unexpired term. During any vacancy, the duties of the office must be performed by the deputy auditor as provided in section 242.

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#### SUMMARY

This bill establishes the State Auditor position as an appointed position by the Governor, requiring a 2/3 approval by the Legislature for confirmation.