## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 140

H.P. 116

House of Representatives, January 14, 1997

Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Study Methods to Reduce Reliance on the Property Tax to Fund Education.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland. Cosponsored by Representative McELROY of Unity.

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study Methods to Reduce Reliance on the Property Tax to Fund Education, referred in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

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- Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 17 members, appointed as follows:
- 1. Two members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, one chosen by the President of the Senate and one chosen by the Speaker of the House;
- 2. Two members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, one chosen by the President of the Senate and one chosen by the Speaker of the House;
- 3. The Commissioner of Education and the presidents or executive directors of the Maine Education Association, the Maine School Boards Association, the Maine Municipal Association and the Maine School Superintendents' Association. The president or executive director of any of these organizations may name a person who is a member of the organization to serve in the president's or executive director's place; and
- 4. Eight members representing the public, appointed by the Governor. Of these 8 members, one must be a certified public accountant and 2 must be public policy faculty members from an institution of higher education in Maine; and be it further
- Sec. 3. Appointments. Resolved: That all appointments must be 30 made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive 32 Director οf the Legislative Council upon making When the appointment of all members is complete, 34 appointments. the chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the 36 first meeting of the commission no later than October 15, 1997. The commission shall select a chair from among its legislative members; and be it further 38
- Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall examine alternative methods of financing state public education for kindergarten through high school. In examining these issues, the commission shall:
  - 1. Review models and methods that are employed by other states to finance public education; and
- 2. Examine different methods of reducing reliance on local property taxes to finance education; and be it further

	Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the commission shall
2	request staffing and clerical assistance from the Legislative
	Council; and be it further
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	Sec. 6. Expenses. Resolved: That all members of the
6	commission are entitled to reimbursement for travel and other
	necessary expenses upon application to the Legislative Council.
8	The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall
	administer the commission's budget; and be it further
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	Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That the commission shall submit
12	its report with any accompanying legislation to the Second
	Regular Session of the 118th Legislature by January 1, 1998. If
14	the commission requires an extension, it may apply to the
	Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.
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18	SUMMARY
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20	This resolve creates a study commission to investigate
2.2	alternative methods of financing public education and different
22	methods of reducing reliance on property taxes to fund
2.4	education. The commission must submit its report and any
24	accompanying legislation to the Second Regular Session of the
26	118th Legislature.
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