

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

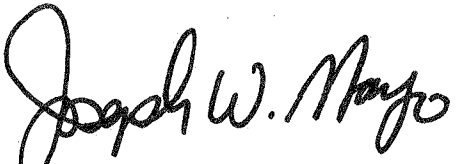
No. 777

H.P. 586

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

Resolve, to Establish a Board to Review State Spending and Budget Procedures.

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.

Sec. 1. State Budget Board established; membership. Resolved:

2 That the State Budget Board, referred to in this resolve as "the
4 board," is established to undertake a complete review of state
6 spending and budgetary procedures. The board consists of the
8 members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and
10 Financial Affairs, the Commissioner of Administrative and
12 Financial Services, the State Auditor, the Treasurer of State and
14 the Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review or the
16 designee of any member who is not a Legislator; and be it further

Sec. 2. Definition; review; duties. Resolved: That:

12
14 1. As used in this resolve, "state agency" includes any
16 board, commission, department, committee, institution, agency or
18 office within the legislative, executive or judicial branch of
20 State Government, including an institution of higher education;

22 2. As part of its review, the board shall:

24 A. Challenge and question the basic assumptions underlying
26 all state agencies and the programs and services offered by
28 the State to identify those that are vital to the best
30 interests of the people of the State and those that no
32 longer meet that goal;

34 B. Conduct a complete review of all state agencies and all
36 programs, services and activities operated by those agencies;

38 C. Evaluate the efficiency with which state agencies
40 operate the programs under their jurisdictions and fulfill
42 the duties assigned to them by law;

44 D. Determine methods to maximize the amount of federal
46 funds received by the State for its programs in order to
48 better ensure that the people of the State receive a greater
share of the taxes levied on them by the federal government;
and

50 E. Identify any state agency or any program or service now
offered by an agency that can be eliminated or transferred
to the private sector without injury to the public good and
well-being; and

3. In performing its duties under this resolve, the board
shall adopt a performance and audit review work plan and may
appoint task forces and subcommittees as necessary; and be it
further

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the board shall submit a
report on the results of its review and audits, including any

2 necessary implementing legislation, to the Second Regular Session
of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature by January 1, 1998,
4 unless the reporting deadline is extended by the Legislative
Council. The report must include recommendations:

6 1. For the programs and services the various state agencies
provide as well as recommendations for the elimination of or
8 reduction in funding to various agencies, programs or services
based on the results of the performance and audit review; and
10

12 2. To improve the efficiency of State Government,
including, if appropriate, recommendations on the reorganization
or consolidation of state agencies; and be it further
14

16 **Sec. 4. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the board may request
staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be it
further
18

20 **Sec. 5. Compensation; funding sources. Resolved:** That members
who are not Legislators are not entitled to compensation for
service on the board. Legislative members are entitled to the
22 legislative per diem for each day's attendance. The board may
accept gifts, grants or assistance, including the provision of
24 specialized personnel from any private or public institution,
association or organization or state agency.
26

28 **SUMMARY**

30 This resolve is modeled on recently enacted Texas law. The
resolve establishes the State Budget Board to review state
32 spending and budgeting procedures and report back to the Second
Regular Session of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature.
34