

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1366

H.P. 986

House of Representatives, March 4, 1997

An Act Regarding Qualifications of Land Use Regulation Commissioners.

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SHIAH of Bowdoinham.
Cosponsored by Representatives: JONES of Bar Harbor, TOWNSEND of Portland,
VOLENIK of Brooklin.

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

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Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §683, first ¶, as amended by PL 1995, c. 3, §2, is further amended to read:

The Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, as established by Title 5, section 12004-D, subsection 1 to carry out the purposes stated in section 681, is created within the Department of Conservation, and in this chapter called the "commission." The commission is charged with implementing this chapter in all of the unorganized and deorganized areas of the State. The commission consists of 7 public members, none of whom may be state employees, who must be appointed by the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over conservation matters and to confirmation by the Legislature, for staggered 4-year terms. Prior to confirmation, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over conservation and forestry issues must find that the potential appointees support the purpose and scope of the commission, including the extension of "principles of sound planning, zoning and subdivision control to the unorganized and deorganized areas of the State." Among the public members, there must be 4 who must be knowledgeable in at least one of each of the following areas: commerce and industry; fisheries and wildlife; forestry; and conservation biology and forest ecology. Of the potential appointees to the commission, the Governor shall actively seek and give consideration to persons residing in or near the unorganized areas of the State and to persons residing on unorganized coastal islands. At least 2 members must be residents within the commission's jurisdiction.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over conservation and forestry issues to find that potential appointees to the Land Use Regulation Commission support the purpose and scope of the commission prior to being appointed.