

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1905

S.P. 679

In Senate, June 20, 1997

**Resolve, Establishing a Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Effects of Government Regulation and Health Insurance Costs on Small Businesses in Maine.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Business and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MacKINNON of York.

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,** this resolve establishes the Blue Ribbon Commission  
6 to Study the Effects of Government Regulation and Health  
Insurance Costs on Small Businesses; and

8           **Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day  
10 period expires in order that the study may be completed and the  
report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative  
12 session; and

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

20           **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Blue Ribbon  
Commission to Study the Effects of Government Regulation and  
22 Health Insurance Costs on Small Businesses, referred to in this  
resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

24           **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission  
26 consists of 12 members appointed as follows: The Governor shall  
appoint 6 members, to include at least 2 members from the  
28 Governor's cabinet, one member representing the business sector,  
one member representing employee unions and one state employee;  
30 the Speaker of the House shall appoint 3 members, to include at  
least one Representative and one member representing the public  
32 sector; and the President of the Senate shall appoint 3 members,  
to include at least one Senator and one member representing the  
34 private sector; and be it further

36           **Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all  
appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the  
38 effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the  
Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing  
40 authorities once the selections have been made. Within 15 days  
after appointment of all members, the Chair of the Legislative  
42 Council shall call and convene the first meeting of the  
commission. The commission shall select a chair from among its  
44 members; and be it further

46           **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study the  
effects of government regulation and health insurance costs on  
48 small businesses throughout the State; and be it further

2           **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the commission may  
request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be  
4 it further

6           **Sec. 6. Expenses. Resolved:** That the members of the  
commission who are Legislators are entitled to receive the  
8 legislative per diem as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,  
Title 3, section 2 and reimbursement for travel and other  
10 necessary expenses for attendance at meetings of the commission.  
Other members are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement  
12 of expenses; and be it further

14           **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That no later than January 1, 1998,  
the commission shall submit its report, together with any  
16 necessary implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing  
Committee on Business and Economic Development and the Executive  
18 Director of the Legislative Council. The Joint Standing  
Committee on Business and Economic Development is authorized to  
20 report out any legislation during the Second Regular Session of  
the 118th Legislature concerning the findings and recommendations  
22 of the commission.

24           If the commission requires an extension, it may apply to the  
Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it  
26 further

28           **Sec. 8. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are  
appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of  
30 this resolve.

32 **1997-98**

34 **LEGISLATURE**

36 **Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Effects**  
38 **of Government Regulation and Health**  
**Insurance Costs on Small Businesses**

40	Personal Services	\$1,320
	All Other	1,700
42		
	TOTAL	<hr/> \$3,020

44  
46 Provides funds for the per diem and expenses  
of legislative members and miscellaneous  
48 costs, including printing, of the Blue  
Ribbon Commission to Study the Effects of  
50 Government Regulation and Health Insurance  
Costs on Small Businesses.

