

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 112

H.P. 99

House of Representatives, January 11, 1999

**Resolve, to Study Current Regulations Imposed on Small Businesses to
Require Greater Efficiency.**

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

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, CLARK of Millinocket, DESMOND of Mapleton, GERRY of Auburn, WHEELER of Eliot, Senators: BERUBE of Androscoggin, PARADIS of Aroostook, PENDLETON of Cumberland.

2 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to
Study the Effect of Government Regulation on Small Businesses,
4 referred to in this resolve as the "task force," is established.
For the purposes of this task force, "small businesses" means
6 those businesses employing 15 or fewer employees; and be it
further

8 **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force
consists of 9 members. The President of the Senate shall appoint
10 4 members, to include one Senator, one member representing the
private sector, one member representing a business employing
12 fewer than 15 people and one member from the Joint Standing
Committee on Business and Economic Development. The Speaker of
14 the House shall appoint 4 members, to include one member of the
House of Representatives, one member representing the public
16 sector, one member representing a business employing fewer than
15 people and one member from the Joint Standing Committee on
18 Business and Economic Development. The Commissioner of Economic
and Community Development or the commissioner's designee must be
20 a member of the task force; and be it further

22 **Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all
appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the
24 effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall
notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once the
26 selections have been made. Within 15 days after appointment of
all members, the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and
28 convene the first meeting of the task force. The task force
shall select a chair from among its legislative members; and be
30 it further

32 **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall study the
effect of government regulation on small businesses throughout
34 the State by examining at a minimum the following: the current
scope of regulatory and licensing structures that may impact
36 small business; the paperwork involved in starting and
maintaining a small business; and possible scenarios developed in
38 conjunction with the Department of Economic and Community
Development that would help streamline the paperwork process for
40 small businesses; and be it further

42 **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the task force may
request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be
44 it further

46 **Sec. 6. Expenses. Resolved:** That the legislative members of
the task force receive legislative per diem, as defined in the
48 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, for each day's
attendance at task force hearings and other members of the task
50 force are entitled to receive compensation or reimbursement for

reasonable expenses for each days attendance at task force
hearings; and be it further

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That no later than December 15,
1999, the task force shall submit its report, together with any
recommendations for legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee
on Business and Economic Development. The Joint Standing
Committee on Business and Economic Development is authorized to
report out any legislation during the Second Regular Session of
the 119th Legislature concerning the findings and recommendations
of the task force.

If the task force requires an extension of the reporting
deadline, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may
grant the extension.

SUMMARY

This resolve establishes the Task Force to Study the Effect
of Government Regulation on Small Businesses.