

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1172

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DATE: June 5, 1999

(Filing No. S- 460)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE AMENDMENT " A " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 393, L.D. 1172, "Resolve, Establishing a Task Force to Study the Need for an Agricultural Vitality Zone Program"

Amend the amendment by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting in their place the following:

Sec. 2. Task force membership and invited participants. Resolved: That the task force consists of 9 members appointed as follows:

1. Four citizens with experience in agriculture or agricultural marketing, appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House; and

2. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, and 3 members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House. Appointments of House members must include one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the House and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the House.

The task force shall invite the participation of the Director of the State Planning Office or the director's designee; the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources or the commissioner's designee; the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the commissioner's designee; and one representative each from the northern, southern, eastern and western Maine regional development districts; and be it further

2 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first named Senate member
is the Senate chair of the task force and the first named House
4 member is the House chair of the task force; and be it further'

6 Further amend the amendment on page 2 by inserting after
section 3 the following:

8 'Further amend the resolve by striking out all of section 4
and inserting in its place the following:

10 '**Sec. 4. Appointments; convening task force. Resolved:** That all
12 appointments must be made by July 16, 1999. The chairs shall
call and convene the first meeting of the task force no later
14 than July 30, 1999; and be it further' '

16 Further amend the amendment on page 2 in section 5 in the
2nd line (page 2, line 36 in amendment) by striking out the
18 following: "public"

20 Further amend the amendment on page 3 by striking out all of
the 2nd indented paragraph (page 3, lines 10 to 12 in amendment)
22 and inserting in its place the following:

24 'Further amend the resolve by striking out all of section 6
and inserting in its place the following:

26 '**Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That upon approval of the
28 Legislative Council the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall
provide staffing services to the task force. The Department of
30 Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the State Planning
Office shall also provide assistance as needed; and be it further'

32 Further amend the resolve by striking out all of section 8
34 and inserting in its place the following:

36 '**Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That by December 1, 1999, the task
force shall submit a report of its findings to the Joint Standing
38 Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry along with
any implementing legislation. The Joint Standing Committee on
40 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may report out a bill
during the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature
42 concerning findings and recommendations of the task force. If
the task force requires a limited extension of time to conclude
44 its study and make its report, it may apply to the Legislative
Council, which may grant the extension; and be it further' '

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R. of S.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 393,
L.D. 1172

2 Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section 9
(page 3, lines 17 to 43 in amendment) and inserting in its place
the following:

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6 'Sec. 9. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are
appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of
this resolve.

8
10 **1999-00**

12 **LEGISLATURE**

14 **Task Force to Study the Need for an
Agricultural Vitality Zone Program**

16 Personal Services \$1,100
18 All Other 2,000

20 Provides funds for the per diem and expenses
of legislative members and the expenses of
22 other eligible members of the Task Force to
Study the Need for an Agricultural Vitality
24 Zone Program and to print the required
report.

26 **LEGISLATURE
TOTAL**

\$3,100'

30 **FISCAL NOTE**

32 This amendment reduces the General Fund cost of the resolve
by \$5,090 in fiscal year 1999-00.

34
36 As amended, this resolve includes an additional General Fund
appropriation of \$3,100 in fiscal year 1999-00 for the
38 Legislature for the per diem and expenses of legislative members
and the expenses of other eligible members of the Task Force to
40 Study the Need for an Agricultural Vitality Zone Program and to
print the required report.

42 The additional costs associated with providing staffing
44 assistance to the task force during the interim between
legislative sessions can be absorbed by the Legislature utilizing
46 existing budgeted resources. If an extension of the reporting
deadline is granted and the task force requires staffing
48 assistance during the legislative session, the Legislature may
require an additional General Fund appropriation to contract for
staff services.

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SENATE AMENDMENT

H. of S.

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SUMMARY

This amendment changes the membership of the task force. It provides for 4 citizen members and 5 Legislators as members and requires the task force to invite the participation of representatives of the State Planning Office, the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Economic and Community Development and representatives of regional development districts.

It also changes the reporting date to December 1, 1999 and authorizes the Legislative Council to grant an extension upon request of the task force. It provides that the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis will provide staffing services and requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the State Planning Office to provide additional services as requested by the task force chairs.

Finally, the amendment removes language relating to public hearings and incorporates a change to the convening date made by House Amendment "A" to the resolve.

SPONSORED BY: *Michael H. Michaud*
(Senator MICHAUD) *JMB*
COUNTY: Penobscot