

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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H. of S.

L.D. 1256

DATE: 4-7-99

(Filing No. H-169)

NATURAL RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 899, L.D. 1256, "Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study the Operation of and Support for the Board of Environmental Protection"

Amend the resolve by striking out all of sections 2 to 4 and inserting in their place the following:

Sec. 2. Membership; chair. Resolved: That the task force consists of no more than 6 members of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources, appointed as follows:

1. No more than 2 members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

2. No more than 4 members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House.

The Speaker of the House shall appoint the chair of the task force; and be it further

Sec. 3. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making their appointments. Within 15 days after appointment of all members, the chair shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force; and be it further

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall review the
 3 structure and operation of the Board of Environmental Protection
 4 to determine whether the board is operating as an independent
 5 body or as part of the executive branch of government, whether
 6 the board has adequate administrative and technical staff and
 7 whether the board's structure and operation provide for credible,
 8 fair and responsible public participation in the decision-making
 9 process. In reviewing the board, the task force shall invite the
 10 participation of interested parties, including representatives of
 11 environmental groups, representatives of business interests and
 12 property owners; and be it further

13 **Sec. 5. Meetings. Resolved:** That the task force may hold 5
 14 meetings, and one of the meetings may be a public hearing; and be
 15 it further

16 **Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the task
 17 force are entitled to receive the legislative per diem, as
 18 defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2 and
 19 reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses for
 20 attendance at authorized meetings of the task force; and be it
 21 further

22 **Sec. 7. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That upon approval of the
 23 Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
 24 shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force; and
 25 be it further

26 **Sec. 8. Task force budget. Resolved:** That the chair of the task
 27 force, with assistance from the task force staff, shall
 28 administer the task force's budget. Within 10 days after its
 29 first meeting, the task force shall present a work plan and
 30 proposed budget to the Legislative Council for approval. The
 31 task force may not incur expenses that would result in the task
 32 force exceeding its approved budget; and be it further'

33 Further amend the resolve in section 5 in the last line
 34 (page 2, line 14 in L.D.) by striking out the following:
 35 "force." and inserting in its place the following: 'force; and
 36 be it further'

37 Further amend the resolve by inserting after section 5 the
 38 following:

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

1999-00

2 LEGISLATURE

4 Task Force to Study the Operation of and
6 Support for the Board of Environmental
Protection

8	Personal Services	\$1,650
	All Other	3,000

10
12 Provides funds for the per diem and expenses
14 of legislative members of the Task Force to
16 Study the Operation of and Support for the
Board of Environmental Protection, one
public hearing and printing costs for the
required report.

18 LEGISLATURE
TOTAL

\$4,650'

20
22 Further amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any
nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read
consecutively.

24
26 Further amend the resolve by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

28 FISCAL NOTE

30 1999-00

32 APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

34	General Fund	\$4,650
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38 This resolve includes an additional General Fund
40 appropriation to the Legislature in the amount of \$4,650 in
42 fiscal year 1999-00 for the per diem and expenses of legislative
members, costs to hold one public hearing and print the report of
the Task Force to Study the Operation of and Support for the
Board of Environmental Protection.

44 The additional costs associated with providing staffing
46 assistance to the task force during the interim between
legislative sessions can be absorbed by the Legislature utilizing
existing budgeted resources.'

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 899, L.D. 1256

SUMMARY

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This amendment changes the membership of the Task Force to Study the Operation of and Support for the Board of Environmental Protection to consist of a subcommittee that consists of no more than 6 members of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources. It clarifies the duties, staffing and compensation of the task force, and authorizes the task force to hold 5 meetings, including one public hearing. The amendment also adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the resolve.