

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: May 10, 2000

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "E" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1755, L.D. 2461, "Resolve, to Create a Commission to Study and Establish Moral Policies on Investments and Purchasing by the State"

Amend the amendment by striking out the substitute title and replacing it with the following:

'Resolve, to Create a Commission to Study and Establish Moral Policies Regarding Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State'

Further amend the amendment by striking out everything after the substitute title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Further amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Preamble. Whereas, Maine is a state that upholds the dignity of every human being, promotes basic human rights and supports social and economic justice; and

Whereas, Maine is a state that believes employers should fairly compensate hard work, that the health and safety of working people should be protected and that all forms of unlawful discrimination and abuse should not be tolerated; and

Whereas, there are manufacturers in foreign countries that do not share Maine's support of human rights and justice and those manufacturers' employment practices are characterized by poverty wages, forced overtime, child labor, unsafe and unhealthy workplace conditions and often abusive working conditions; and

SENATE AMENDMENT

A.S.

2 **Whereas,** established international standards for ethical
manufacturing are routinely violated; and

4
6 **Whereas,** sweatshops have been and continue to be a direct
cause of job loss and depressed wages for citizens of Maine,
whose employers relocate for cheap labor or threaten plant
8 closings to force lower wages and contract concessions; and

10 **Whereas,** Maine can make a significant contribution to the
campaigns against sweatshop manufacturing by supporting the
12 enforcement of established ethical codes of corporate conduct; and

14 **Whereas,** there exists widespread popular support in Maine
for the principle that purchases and investments by the State
16 ought to be made under ethical conditions of production; now,
therefore, be it

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20 **Sec. 1. Commission to Study Economically and Socially Just Policies
for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State established.**

22 **Resolved:** That the Commission to Study Economically and Socially
Just Policies for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by
the State, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is
24 established; and be it further

26 **Sec. 2. Commission membership; appointments. Resolved:** That
the commission consists of 12 members as follows:

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30 1. Two members from the Senate appointed by the President
of the Senate, one of whom is a member of a political party that
does not hold a majority of seats in that body;

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34 2. Two members from the House of Representatives appointed
by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a
member of a political party that does not hold a majority of
36 seats in that body;

38 3. Two members from groups involved in social investments
or human rights issues, one appointed by the President and one
40 appointed by the Speaker;

42 4. Two representatives of retail business, one appointed by
the President and one appointed by the Speaker;

44
46 5. One representative of the Department of Administrative
and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of
Purchases appointed by the Governor;

48 6. One member of the public appointed by the Governor;

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7. One representative of labor unions appointed by the
Governor; and

8. One representative of manufacturing and industry
appointed by the Governor.

All appointments must be completed no later than August 18,
2000; and be it further

Sec. 3. First meeting; chairs. Resolved: That the first named
Senate member is the Senate chair and the first named House
member is the House chair of the commission. When the
appointment of all members of the commission is completed, the
commission chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the
commission no later than August 31, 2000; and be it further

Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall study the
subject of economically and socially just policies for foreign
investment and foreign purchasing by the State. In examining the
issue of economically and socially just policies for foreign
investments and foreign purchasing, the commission shall evaluate
the policies of other states. In its report, the commission
shall propose standards concerning foreign companies that do
business with the State and foreign companies invested in by the
State. The commission shall consider such factors as child labor
and exploitation of workers under unhealthy conditions. The
commission shall make recommendations with regard to whether the
State should do business with and invest in foreign companies
that oppress or mistreat their workers. The commission shall
identify the possible positive and negative impacts of proposed
policies on Maine workers, Maine small businesses and Maine
taxpayers; and be it further

Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved: That, upon approval of the
Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and
be it further

Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved: That the members of the
commission who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative
per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3,
section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for
their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Other
members of the commission who are not otherwise compensated by
their employers or other entities that they represent are
entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred
for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission;
and be it further

2 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit
4 its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation,
6 to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later
8 than November 15, 2000. If the commission requires a limited
extension of time to conclude its work, it may apply to the
Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it
further

10 **Sec. 8. Budget. Resolved:** That the chair of the commission,
12 with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the
14 commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the
16 commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the
18 Legislative Council for approval. The commission may not incur
20 expenses that would result in the commission exceeding its
approved budget. Upon request from the commission, the Executive
Director of the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the
commission chair and staff with a status report on the
commission's budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available
funds; and be it further

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

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2000-01

LEGISLATURE

**Commission to Study Economically and
Socially Just Policies for Foreign
Investments and Foreign Purchasing by
the State**

Personal Services	\$1,320
All Other	3,500

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members and expenses for other eligible members of the Commission to Study Economically and Socially Just Policies for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State and to print the required report.

**LEGISLATURE
TOTAL**

\$4,820' '

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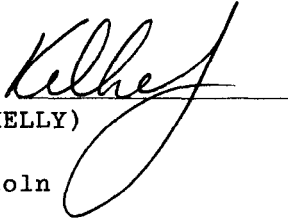
SUMMARY

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This amendment incorporates the substance of Senate
Amendment "D" to Committee Amendment "A," except that it removes
the emergency preamble and emergency clause and specifies an
appointment date of August 18, 2000, an initial meeting date of
August 31, 2000 and a reporting date of November 15, 2000.

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SPONSORED BY: 
(Senator KILKELLY)

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COUNTY: Lincoln

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