

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2000

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Legislative Document

No. 2661

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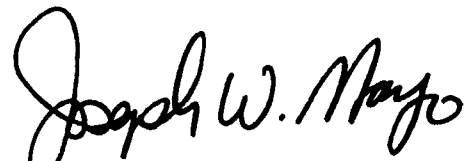
H.P. 1916

House of Representatives, March 31, 2000

**An Act to Implement Recommendations of the Joint Standing  
Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs Relating to the Review of  
the State Cultural and Other Agencies under the State Government  
Evaluation Act.**

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Reported by Representative BRENNAN for the Joint Standing Committee on Education  
and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 955, subsection 4.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §959, sub-§1, ¶E,** as amended by PL 1999, c. 127, Pt. C, §9, is further amended to read:

E. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs shall use the following list as a guideline for scheduling reviews:

(1) Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council in 1997;

(2) Department of Education in 1997;

(2-A) State Board of Education in 1997;

(3) Maine Arts Commission in 1999;

~~(4) --Maine Conservation School in 1999;~~

(5) Maine Historic Preservation Commission in 1999;

(5-A) Notwithstanding section 952, Maine Historical Society in 1999;

(6) Maine Library Commission in 1999;

(6-A) Maine State Cultural Affairs Council in 1999;

(6-B) Maine State Library in 1999;

(6-C) Maine State Museum in 1999;

(7) Maine State Museum Commission in 1999;

(8) Office of State Historian in 1999;

(9) Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy in 2001;

(10) Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System in 2001;

(11) Educational Leave Advisory Board in 2001;

(12) Maine Technical College System in 2001;

(13) Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority in 2003; and

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(14) Maine Educational Loan Authority in 2003.

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §1581**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 420, §1, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

The Maine Humanities Council must be a separate appropriation not included under any other department or agency in the General Fund appropriation bill.

**Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA c. 325**, as amended, is repealed.

**Sec. 4. 27 MRSA §82**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. B, §18, is further amended to read:

**§82. Maine State Museum Commission**

The Governor shall appoint the Maine State Museum Commission, as established by Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 7-C, consisting of 15 members especially qualified and interested in the several fields of museum activity. Of those members first appointed, 5 shall ~~be~~ are appointed for terms of 2 years, 5 for 4 years and 5 for 6 years. Their successors shall ~~be~~ are appointed for ~~6~~ 4 years. Members are limited to 2 consecutive 4-year terms. Each member shall serve for the term of the appointment and ~~thereafter~~ until a successor is appointed and qualified. The commission shall elect a chair and vice-chair from its members. In case of the termination of a member's service during the term, the Governor shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term. ~~Members shall be compensated according to~~ are entitled to compensation in accordance with the provisions of Title 5, chapter 379.

**Sec. 5. 27 MRSA §261**, as amended by PL 1975, c. 771, §292, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**§261. Appointment**

The Governor shall appoint the State Historian. The State Historian must be a resident of the State, a member of an historical society in the State and distinguished as a researcher, writer, lecturer or teacher of Maine history. In making the appointment, the Governor shall consider any recommendation for the position by the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council. The term of appointment for the State Historian is 4 years or until a successor is appointed and qualified. Reappointment is permitted.

**Sec. 6. 27 MRSA §§262 to 266** are repealed.



2 of the Maine State Museum Commission applies to full terms  
beginning after the effective date of this Act. Members holding  
4 office on the Maine State Museum Commission on the effective date  
of this Act or successors appointed to serve the remainder of  
6 those terms remain in office until expiration of the terms.  
After the effective date of this Act, the first 8 terms that  
8 expire must be filled by appointments, including reappointment of  
the incumbent, that expire on the anniversary date of that  
10 position in the year 2006. When the remaining 7 positions  
expire, they must be filled by appointments, including  
12 reappointment of the incumbent, that expire on the anniversary  
date of that position in the year 2008.

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### SUMMARY

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This bill implements the recommendations made by the Joint  
Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs as a result  
of the committee's review of state cultural agencies and other  
agencies under the State Government Evaluation Act. The bill:

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1. Repeals the law establishing the Maine Conservation  
School; the school will continue as a nonprofit corporation  
operating under Maine law;

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2. Reduces the term of members of the Maine State Museum  
Commission from 6 years to 4 years, establishes a 2-term limit  
for members and provides for the transition from the old law to  
the new;

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3. Repeals obsolete provisions and enacts an updated law  
governing the qualifications, appointment and duties of the State  
Historian;

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4. Increases from \$40,000 to \$50,000 the cap on Percent for  
Art Program projects for public schools that elect to participate  
in the program; and

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5. Provides for a separate annual budget line for the Maine  
Humanities Council.

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