

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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m
R.S.

L.D. 754

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DATE: 4-26-01

(Filing No. H- 191)

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

18
20 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 599, L.D. 754, Bill, "An
Act to Establish a 4-year Vocational Education Program"

22 Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting
the following:

24
26 **'Resolve, to Study the Feasibility of a 4-year Vocational
Educational Program'**

28 Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the
30 title and before the summary and inserting in its place the
following:

32 **'Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission
34 to Study the Feasibility of a 4-year Vocational Education
Program, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is
established; and be it further

36
38 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission
consists of the following 6 members:

40 1. Three members of the House of Representatives, appointed
42 by the Speaker of the House. When making these appointments, the
Speaker shall give preference to members of the House who are
44 knowledgeable on matters pertaining to vocational education. The
first appointed member from the House is the House chair of the
46 commission; and

48 2. Three members of the Senate, appointed by the President
of the Senate. When making these appointments, the President

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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2 shall give preference to members of the Senate who are
3 knowledgeable on matters pertaining to vocational education. The
4 first appointed member from the Senate is the Senate chair of the
5 commission; and be it further

6 **Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all
7 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the
8 effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall
9 notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once the
10 appointments have been made. The Executive Director of the
11 Legislative Council shall notify the chairs when all appointments
12 have been made. The chairs of the commission shall call and
13 convene the first meeting of the commission any time after the
14 effective date of this resolve; and be it further

15 **Sec. 4. Stakeholder group established by the commission.**
16 **Resolved:** That the commission shall form a stakeholder group to
17 assist and advise the commission on matters pertaining to the
18 operation of the existing vocational education program in the
19 State and on matters pertaining to the establishment of a 4-year
20 vocational education program. The stakeholder group consists of,
21 but is not limited to, at least one representative of each of the
22 following groups: vocational school teachers, administrators and
23 directors; the Department of Education; elementary and high
24 school teachers, principals and superintendents; the State Board
25 of Education; persons representing each of the trade associations
26 in the State. The stakeholder group may also include any other
27 persons chosen by the commission; and be it further

28 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study the
29 feasibility of establishing a 4-year vocational education program
30 in the State. In conducting the study the commission shall
31 review any applicable studies on this subject previously
32 conducted in the State, review and assess 4-year vocational
33 education programs in other states, determine the need for such a
34 program in the State in each of the trade groups, review issues
35 related to the start-up of such a program including issues of
36 access, choices of curricula, scheduling, consistency with goals
37 of the statewide system of learning results, questions of
38 capacity and coordination and any other issues considered
39 relevant by the commission or the stakeholder group; and be it
40 further

41 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, upon approval of the
42 Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
43 shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission. The
44 Office of Fiscal and Program Review and the Department of
45 education also shall provide assistance as requested by the
46 commission; and be it further

50

R. S.

2 **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the
3 commission who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative
4 per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3,
5 section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for
6 their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission.
7 Persons who participate as stakeholders are not entitled to
8 compensation for their attendance at authorized meetings; and be
9 it further

10 **Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit
11 its report, together with any recommended implementing
12 legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 120th
13 Legislature no later than December 6, 2001. If the commission
14 requires a limited extension of time to conclude its work, it may
15 apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension;
16 and be it further

17 **Sec. 9. Budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the commission,
18 with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the
19 commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the
20 commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the
21 Legislative Council for approval. The commission may not incur
22 expenses that would result in the commission exceeding its
23 approved budget. Upon request from the commission, the Executive
24 Director of the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the
25 commission chairs and staff with a status report on the
26 commission's budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available
27 funds; and be it further

28 **Sec. 10. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are
29 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of
30 this resolve.
31

32
33
34 **2001-02**

35
36 **LEGISLATURE**

37
38 **Commission to Study the Feasibility
39 of a 4-year Vocational Education Program**

40	Personal Services	\$1,320
41	All Other	2,000

42
43
44 Provides funds for the per diem and expenses
45 of legislative members of the Commission to
46 Study the feasibility of a 4-year Vocational
47 Education Program and to print the required
48 report.

49
50 **LEGISLATURE**
51 **TOTAL**
\$3,320'

52

H. & S.

2 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

4

6 **FISCAL NOTE**

8

2001-02

10 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

12 General Fund \$3,320

14

16 The Legislature will require an additional General Fund
18 appropriation of \$3,320 in fiscal year 2001-02 for the per diem
and expenses of legislative members of the Commission to Study
the Feasibility of a 4-year Vocational Education Program and to
print the required report.

20

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

30

The additional costs associated with participating with a
study commission regarding vocational education can be absorbed
32 by the Department of Education utilizing existing budgeted
resources.'

34

36 **SUMMARY**

38 This amendment changes the bill to a resolve, changes its
title and replaces the bill.

40

42 The amendment creates a commission to study the feasibility
of establishing a 4-year vocational education program. The
commission is composed of 3 members of the House of
44 Representatives and 3 members of the Senate. The duties of the
commission are to review any applicable studies on this subject
46 previously conducted in the State, review and assess 4-year
vocational education programs in other states, determine the need
48 for such a program in Maine in each of the trade groups and
review issues related to the start-up of such a program including

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 599, L.D. 754

2 issues of access, choices of curricula, scheduling, consistency
with goals of the statewide system of learning results, questions
4 of capacity and coordination and any other issues considered
relevant by the commission.

6 The amendment directs the commission to establish a
stakeholder group to assist and advise the commission during its
8 study and directs the commission to report its findings to the
Legislature by December 6, 2001.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT