

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
120TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 513, L.D. 1632, "Resolve, Directing the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to Determine the Physical Condition of Information Technology Infrastructure in the State"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, Directing the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to Determine the Technological, Economic and Public Policy Challenges and Opportunities for the Deployment of Broadband Information Technology Infrastructure to all Parts of the State'**

Further amend the resolve by striking out all of sections 1, 2 and 3 and inserting in their place the following:

**'Sec. 1. State Economist and Chief Information Officer to determine technological, economic and public policy challenges and opportunities for deployment of broadband information technology to all parts of State.**

**Resolved:** That the State Economist and the Chief Information Officer in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall determine the technological, economic and public policy challenges and opportunities for the deployment of broadband information technology infrastructure to all parts of the State; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Working group and advisory panel. Resolved:** That the Telecommunications Working Group, referred to in this resolve

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as the "working group," is established.

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1. The working group consists of the following:

- A. The Chief Information Officer in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services;
- B. The State Economist;
- C. The Director of Operations and Technology, Office of the Governor; and
- D. The President of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation or the president's designee.

2. An advisory panel, referred to in this resolve as the "advisory panel," is established to provide information and advice to the working group members. The advisory panel consists of the following 21 members:

- A. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- B. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- C. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the commissioner's designee;
- D. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee;
- E. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the chancellor's designee;
- F. The Public Advocate or the Public Advocate's designee;
- G. The chair of the Public Utilities Commission or the chair's designee;
- H. Two representatives from regional or county economic development organizations in the State, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- I. A member of the Board of Directors of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation, designated by the board;
- J. A member of the Board of Directors of the Telephone Association of Maine or that member's designee, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

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2 K. A member of the Maine Telecommunications Users Group or  
4 that member's designee, appointed by the Speaker of the  
House;

6 L. Four representatives of the telecommunications and  
8 Internet service providers industry, 2 appointed by the  
President of the Senate and 2 appointed by the Speaker of  
the House;

10 M. A member of the board of the Electronic Commerce Forum  
12 of Maine, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

14 N. The Executive Director of the Maine Rural Development  
16 Council or the executive director's designee; and

18 O. The State Director of the United States Department of  
Agriculture's Rural Development Program in this State or the  
20 director's designee; and be it further

22 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first named Senate member  
is the Senate chair of the advisory panel and the first named  
House of Representatives member is the House chair of the  
24 advisory panel; and be it further

26 **Sec. 4. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all  
28 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the  
effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the  
Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing  
30 authorities once the selections have been made. When the  
appointment of all members has been completed, the chairs of the  
32 advisory panel shall call and convene the first meeting of the  
advisory panel; and be it further

34 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the working group, in carrying  
36 out the purposes of this resolve, shall perform the following  
duties:

38 1. Identify specific geographic areas where advanced  
40 telecommunications capability is deployed at a significantly  
lower rate than the rest of the State;

42 2. Study the following:

44 A. The investment in telecommunications facilities with  
46 advanced capabilities in rural areas, including an  
assessment of the various levels of capability deployed  
48 under different technologies, the bandwidth capabilities of  
the deployment and whether or not comparable bandwidth is  
50 deployed consistently;

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2 B. The availability of telecommunications backbone networks  
4 and "last mile" facilities with advanced capability in  
potentially underserved areas;

6 C. The technological, economic and public policy barriers to  
8 the wide deployment of broad bandwidth to all parts of the  
State;

10 D. The capability of various technological enhancements to  
12 existing wired and wireless networks to provide "last mile"  
advanced telecommunications capability in rural areas; and

14 E. The feasibility of various technological alternatives to  
16 provide "last mile" advanced telecommunications capability  
in rural areas; and

18 3. Identify successful strategies that have been implemented  
20 in other states and regions to deploy advanced telecommunications  
capability to rural areas; and be it further

22 **Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the  
24 advisory panel who are Legislators are entitled to the  
legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,  
26 Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses  
incurred for their attendance at authorized meetings of the  
advisory panel; and be it further

28 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the working group shall report  
30 its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee  
on Business and Economic Development no later than December 31,  
32 2001. The Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic  
Development may report out legislation pursuant to this resolve  
34 to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature; and be it  
further

36 **Sec. 8. Budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the advisory  
38 panel, with assistance from the advisory panel staff, shall  
administer the advisory panel's budget. Within 10 days after its  
40 first meeting, the advisory panel shall present a work plan and  
proposed budget to the Legislative Council for approval. The  
42 advisory panel may not incur expenses that would result in the  
advisory panel's exceeding its approved budget. Upon request  
44 from the advisory panel, the Executive Director of the  
Legislative Council shall promptly provide the advisory panel  
46 chairs and staff with a status report on the advisory panel's  
budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available funds; and  
48 be it further



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2 the technological, economic and public policy challenges and  
opportunities for the deployment of broadband information  
4 technology infrastructure to all parts of the State, and to  
report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing  
Committee on Business and Economic Development in the Second  
6 Regular Session of the 120th Legislature. The amendment also  
establishes a 21-member advisory panel. It also adds an  
8 appropriation section and a fiscal note to the resolve.

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