

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 1675

H.P. 1228

House of Representatives, March 15, 2001

**Resolve, to Facilitate Attracting and Retaining a High Quality Work  
Force at the University of Maine System.**

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Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Speaker SAXL of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator CATHCART of Penobscot and

Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, ESTES of Kittery, HAWES of Standish, LEDWIN of Holden, MATTHEWS of Winslow, QUINT of Portland, RICHARD of Madison, THOMAS of Orono.

2           **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission  
to Examine Health Insurance Benefits Provided to University of  
Maine System Employees, referred to in this resolve as the  
4 "commission," is established; and be it further

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

8  
1. Three Senators, one of whom is a member of the Joint  
10 Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, one of whom  
is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and  
12 Insurance and one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing  
Committee on Labor, appointed by the President of the Senate;

14  
2. Six members of the House of Representatives, 2 of whom  
16 are members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and  
Cultural Affairs, 2 of whom are members of the Joint Standing  
18 Committee on Banking and Insurance and 2 of whom are members of  
the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, appointed by the Speaker  
20 of the House;

22           3. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the  
chancellor's designee; and

24  
4. A representative of each union that represents  
26 University of Maine System employees, appointed by each  
representative's respective union; and be it further

28  
**Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first named Senate member  
30 is the Senate chair of the commission and the first named House  
of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission;  
32 and be it further

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

44           **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study the  
health insurance benefits provided to University of Maine System  
46 employees. In conducting the study, the commission shall examine  
providing health insurance benefits to University of Maine System  
48 employees under the same group health plan that is available to  
state employees; and be it further

50

2           **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, upon approval of the  
Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
4 shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and  
be it further

6           **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the  
commission who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative  
8 per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3,  
section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for  
10 their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Other  
members of the commission who are not otherwise compensated by  
12 their employers or other entities that they represent are  
entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred  
14 for their attendance at authorized meetings; and be it further

16           **Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit  
its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation,  
18 to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later  
than January 7, 2002. If the commission requires a limited  
20 extension of time to conclude its work, it may apply to the  
Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it  
22 further

24           **Sec. 9. Budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the commission,  
with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the  
26 commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the  
commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the  
28 Legislative Council for approval. The commission may not incur  
expenses that would result in the commission's exceeding its  
30 approved budget. Upon request from the commission, the Executive  
Director of the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the  
32 commission chairs and staff with a status report on the  
commission's budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available  
34 funds.

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## SUMMARY

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40           This resolve establishes the Commission to Examine Health  
Insurance Benefits Provided to University of Maine System  
Employees. The commission shall examine providing health  
42 insurance benefits to University of Maine System employees under  
the same group health plan that is available to state employees  
44 and report back to the Second Regular Session of the 120th  
Legislature.