

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 965

H.P. 722

House of Representatives, February 25, 2003

**Resolve, to Create a Task Force to Implement the 1991 Report of  
the President's and Speaker's Blue Ribbon Commission on Children  
and Families**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative O'BRIEN of Augusta.  
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.

2           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts and resolves of the  
Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after  
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** the study required by this resolve must be  
initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the  
study may be completed and a report submitted for the next  
8 legislative session; and

10           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
12 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
14 safety; now, therefore, be it

16           **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to  
Implement the 1991 Report of the President's and Speaker's Blue  
18 Ribbon Commission on Children and Families, referred to in this  
resolve as the "task force," is established; and be it further

20           **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force  
22 consists of 10 members as follows:

- 24           A. The President of the Senate;
- 26           B. The Speaker of the House;
- 28           C. The Majority Leader of the Senate;
- 30           D. The Assistant Majority Leader of the Senate;
- 32           E. The Minority Leader of the Senate;
- 34           F. The Assistant Minority Leader of the Senate;
- 36           G. The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives;
- 38           H. The Assistant Majority Leader of the House of  
Representatives;
- 40           I. The Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and
- 42           J. The Assistant Minority Leader of the House of  
44 Representatives; and be it further

46           **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the President of the Senate  
and the Speaker of the House of Representatives are the chairs of  
48 the task force; and be it further

2           **Sec. 4. Convening of task force. Resolved:** That the chairs shall  
call and convene the first meeting of the task force no later  
4           than 45 days after adjournment of the First Regular Session of  
the 121st Legislature; and be it further

6           **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall create a  
plan to implement the recommendations of the 1991 Report of the  
8           President's and Speaker's Blue Ribbon Commission on Children and  
Families; and be it further

10           **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, upon approval of the  
Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
12           shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force; and  
14           be it further

16           **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the task  
force are entitled to receive the legislative per diem, as  
18           defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and  
reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to  
20           their attendance at meetings of the commission; and be it further

22           **Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall submit  
its report, together with any recommended implementing  
24           legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local  
Government no later than November 3, 2003. The task force is not  
26           authorized to introduce legislation. Following receipt and  
review of the report, the joint standing committee may report out  
28           a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.  
If the task force requires an extension of time to complete its  
30           report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant  
the extension; and be it further

32           **Sec. 9. Task force budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the  
34           task force, with assistance from the task force staff, shall  
administer the task force's budget. Within 10 days after its  
36           first meeting, the task force shall present a work plan and  
proposed budget to the Legislative Council for its approval. The  
38           task force may not incur expenses that would result in the task  
force exceeding its approved budget.

40           Upon request from the task force, the Executive Director of  
42           the Legislative Council or the Executive Director's designee  
shall promptly provide the task force chair and staff with a  
44           status report on the task force budget, expenditures incurred and  
paid and available funds.

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48           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

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## SUMMARY

4           This resolve creates the Task Force to Implement the 1991  
6 Report of the President's and Speaker's Blue Ribbon Commission on  
8 Children and Families. The task force's membership consists of  
10 the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate and the  
12 House and Senate majority and minority leaders. The task force  
is required to report to the joint standing committee of the  
Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government  
matters by November 3, 2003.