

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 245

H.P. 184

House of Representatives, January 18, 2005

An Act To Enact an Immediate Review System in the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CROSTHWAITE of Ellsworth.
Cosponsored by Senator NASS of York and
Representatives: BARSTOW of Gorham, EDGECOMB of Caribou, JOY of Crystal,
LINDELL of Frankfort, ROSEN of Bucksport, SAVIELLO of Wilton, TRAHAN of
Waldoboro.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §994, sub-§10**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 673,
Pt. GGGG, §6, is further amended to read:

6 **10. Adopt rules.** To adopt rules, as long as the rules are
7 not in conflict with the Joint Rules of the Legislature. By
8 January 1, 2005, the committee must develop a mission statement
to be included in the rules; and

10
11 **Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §994, sub-§11**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 673,
12 Pt. GGGG, §7, is amended to read:

14 **11. Information available to committee.** To receive certain
15 information. Information that is made available to the committee
16 is governed by chapter 21, which governs legislative
17 investigating committees, and by Title 1, chapter 13, which
18 governs public records and proceedings; and

20 **Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §994, sub-§12** is enacted to read:

22 **12. Immediate review system.** To establish a system to
23 provide immediate review of a program or function of a state
24 agency or other entity in the event that there is a suspicion of
25 a major auditing problem or major fraud or major mismanagement of
26 public funds. If the director determines to proceed under the
27 immediate review system and the committee approves proceeding
28 under that system, qualified auditors and investigators may be
29 retained by the director for that purpose.

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32 **SUMMARY**

34 This bill establishes within the Office of Program
35 Evaluation and Government Accountability an immediate review
36 system to provide immediate review of a program or function of a
37 state agency or other entity in the event that there is a
38 suspicion of a major auditing problem or major fraud or major
mismanagement of public funds.