

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1008

S.P. 348

In Senate, February 24, 2005

**Resolve, To Establish a Study Commission To Analyze Regulations
Applicable to Sewer Districts**

Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NASS of York.

2 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission
to Study and Analyze Regulations Applicable to Sewer Districts,
4 referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established;
and be it further

6 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission
consists of 5 members appointed as follows:

8
1. One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of
10 the Senate;

12 2. One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by
the Speaker of the House;

14 3. Two members who are superintendents of different-sized
16 sewer districts; and

18 4. One member of the Department of Environmental
Protection; and be it further

20 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the Senate member is the
22 Senate chair of the commission and the House of Representatives
member is the House chair of the commission; and be it further

24 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That
26 all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the
effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall
28 notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all
appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after
30 appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the
first meeting of the commission; and be it further

32 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall examine
34 the following issues concerning the analysis of rules and
regulations applicable to sewer districts:

36 1. Review rules and regulations, practices and education
38 requirements of the sewer districts; and

40 2. Review all testing requirements, especially discharge
testing, and any other issues the commission determines
42 appropriate; and be it further

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

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2 **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the legislative members
3 of the commission are entitled to receive the legislative per
4 diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section
5 2, and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses
6 related to their attendance at authorized meetings of the
7 commission. Public members not otherwise compensated by their
8 employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to
9 receive reimbursement of necessary expenses and, upon a
10 demonstration of financial hardship, a per diem equal to the
11 legislative per diem for their attendance at authorized meetings
12 of the commission; and be it further

13 **Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than January 17,
14 2006, the commission shall submit a report that includes its
15 findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation,
16 for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 122nd
17 Legislature. The commission is authorized to introduce
18 legislation related to its report to the Second Regular Session
19 of the 122nd Legislature at the time of submission of its report;
20 and be it further

21 **Sec. 9. Extension. Resolved:** That, if the commission requires
22 a limited extension of time to complete its study and make its
23 report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant
24 an extension; and be it further

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

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SUMMARY

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43 This resolve establishes a study commission to analyze rules
44 and regulations applicable to sewer districts, with the authority
45 to report out legislation to the 122nd Legislature in January
46 2006.