

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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The House Calendar

The Advance Journal and Calendar of the House of Representatives

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

17th Legislative Day

Thursday, March 5, 2009

Calling of the House to Order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Pastor John Durgin, Penobscot Bay Ministries, Thomaston.

National Anthem by January Kapuscinski, Warren.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, David Simmons, M.D., Calais.

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, March 3, 2009.

Hannah M. Pingree, Speaker

Millicent M. MacFarland, Clerk

<http://www.maine.gov/legis/house/hcalfr.htm>

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ORDERS

(4-1) On motion of Representative TUTTLE of Sanford, the following Joint Order:
(H.P. 587)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Landlord and Tenant Issues is established as follows.

1. Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Landlord and Tenant Issues established. The Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Landlord and Tenant Issues, referred to in this order as "the commission," is established.

2. Membership. The commission consists of 13 members, appointed as follows:

A. Six members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

- (1) Three members of the Senate;
- (2) One member from an organization that provides free legal services to low-income persons in the State;
- (3) One member from an organization representing landlords; and
- (4) One member from an organization representing housing managers;

B. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows:

- (1) Four members of the House of Representatives;
- (2) One member representing the Maine State Housing Authority; and
- (3) One member representing the District Court system; and

C. The Attorney General.

3. Commission chairs. The first-named Senator is the Senate chair of the commission and the first-named member of the House is the House chair of the commission.

4. Appointments; convening of commission. All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following passage of this order. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been made. When the appointment of all members has been completed, the chairs of the commission shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission.

5. Duties. The commission shall:

- A. Study the feasibility of obtaining heating fuel assistance and insulation assistance for landlords who serve low-income tenants in certain economically distressed areas;
- B. Study how to keep units in proper repair;
- C. Study how to keep tenants in their apartments in the event of a foreclosure; and
- D. Study any other issues pertaining to landlord and tenant issues that it determines to be relevant.

6. Staff assistance. The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission.

7. Report. No later than December 2, 2009, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the commission is not authorized to introduce legislation. Upon receipt of the report required by this section, the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs may, pursuant to Joint Rule 353, introduce a bill during the session to which the report is submitted to implement its recommendations on matters relating to the study.

(4-2) On motion of Representative WHEELER of Kittery, the following House Order:
(H.O. 16)

ORDERED, that Representative Richard C. Cleary of Houlton be excused February 24 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Veronica Magnan of Stockton Springs be excused February 19 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Wayne T. Mitchell of the Penobscot Nation be excused March 3 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Wesley E. Richardson of Warren be excused February 19 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Douglas A. Thomas of Ripley be excused February 24 and 26 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Linda M. Valentino of Saco be excused February 19 and 26 for personal reasons.
