

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1395

H.P. 945

House of Representatives, May 7, 2015

**An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Government
Oversight Committee To Ensure Legislative Review of Reports
Submitted by Quasi-independent State Agencies**

Reported by Representative KRUGER of Thomaston for the Government Oversight Committee pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 997, subsection 2.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12023, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

3 **3. Committee review and report.** By March 1st of every second regular session,
4 beginning in 2016, a joint standing committee of the Legislature receiving reports
5 pursuant to subsection 2 shall review the reports received within the past 2 calendar
6 years, and gather additional information as necessary from the submitting entities, to
7 assess whether policies and procedures adopted by a governing body in accordance with
8 section 12022, subsections 3 to 5 are consistent with expectations established in those
9 subsections and whether all reported waivers of competitive procurement and reported
10 contributions made are in compliance with the adopted policies and procedures, including
11 proper justification and documentation. The joint standing committee shall report the
12 results of its review, including any areas that should be reviewed in more depth, to the
13 joint legislative committee established to oversee program evaluation and government
14 accountability matters.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill seeks to enhance legislative oversight of quasi-independent state entities by
17 ensuring that joint standing committees of jurisdiction are monitoring the entities'
18 compliance with requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, sections 12022 and
19 12023, and alerting the Government Oversight Committee to any concerns identified. The
20 statutory requirements address expectations for quasi-independent state entities with
21 regard to procurement practices, payments for membership dues and fees, gifts, donations
22 and sponsorships and travel, meal and entertainment expenses. This bill provides for
23 review of those reports by those committees and their communicating to the Government
24 Oversight Committee the results of the reviews and areas identified that should be
25 reviewed in more depth.