

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 288

H.P. 212

House of Representatives, January 22, 2019

**Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Create a Statewide
Economic Development Plan**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and
Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, FECTEAU of
Biddeford, HANDY of Lewiston, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, JORGENSEN of Portland,
MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

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

3 **Whereas,** this resolve establishes the Commission To Create a Statewide Economic
4 Development Plan to study a number of economic development issues and create a
5 strategic, regionally focused economic development plan; and

6 **Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that
7 the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next
8 legislative session; and

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

13 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission To Create a
14 Statewide Economic Development Plan, referred to in this resolve as "the commission,"
15 is established.

16 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule
17 353, the commission consists of 20 members appointed as follows:

18 1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including
19 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

20 2. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
21 House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats
22 in the Legislature;

23 3. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the chancellor's designee;

24 4. The President of the Maine Community College System or the president's
25 designee;

26 5. An individual representing a private organization focused on promoting economic
27 growth in the State appointed by the President of the Senate;

28 6. An individual representing a private research institution appointed by the Speaker
29 of the House;

30 7. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the
31 commissioner's designee;

32 8. The State Economist or the State Economist's designee;

33 9. A member of the Maine Economic Growth Council, established in the Maine
34 Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 929-A, appointed by the President of the Senate;

1 10. A representative of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce appointed by the
2 President of the Senate;

3 11. A representative of a regional chamber of commerce appointed by the Speaker of
4 the House;

5 12. The Commissioner of Transportation or the commissioner's designee;

6 13. Three members representing business or professional organizations, 2 of whom
7 may be representatives of business or professional enterprises based outside of the State
8 but that have or have had business interests in the State and that may include foreign
9 nationals, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

10 14. Three members representing business or professional enterprises, each based in a
11 separate region of the State, who may not be in the same industry, including at least one
12 representing a business with fewer than 25 employees, appointed by the Speaker of the
13 House.

14 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate
15 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
16 commission.

17 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all
18 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
19 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
20 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
21 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more
22 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
23 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority
24 for the commission to meet and conduct its business.

25 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall create a strategic, regionally
26 focused economic development plan for the State, including:

27 1. An inventory and analysis of the State's competitive advantages and an inventory
28 and analysis of factors that tend to retard economic development in the State;

29 2. Identification and analysis of state, national and international economic trends
30 affecting the State's economic development;

31 3. Development of strategies for the promotion of business formation, expansion,
32 recruitment and retention through aggressive marketing, international development and
33 export assistance and any other strategies identified as advantageous that lead to more
34 and better jobs and higher wages for all geographic regions and disadvantaged
35 communities and populations of the State, including rural areas;

36 4. Development of policies and programs to further economic diversity in the State,
37 its regions and their associated industries;

