

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

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Legislative Document

No. 1878

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H.P. 1344

House of Representatives, December 24, 2019

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**Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Use of Adjunct Professors in Maine's Public University and College System**

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 20, 2019. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative DODGE of Belfast.

Cosponsored by Representatives: McCREA of Fort Fairfield, WHITE of Waterville, Senator: MIRAMANT of Knox.

1           **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission To Study  
2 the Use of Adjunct Professors in Maine's Public University and College System, referred  
3 to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

4           **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of  
5 11 members appointed as follows:

6           1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one of  
7 whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs  
8 and one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing;

9           2. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the  
10 House, at least one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Education  
11 and Cultural Affairs and at least one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing  
12 Committee on Labor and Housing;

13           3. One member representing the Office of the Governor, appointed by the Governor;

14           4. One member representing the University of Maine System, appointed by the  
15 President of the Senate;

16           5. One member representing the Maine Community College System, appointed by  
17 the Speaker of the House; and

18           6. Two members representing the employee representatives of adjunct professors and  
19 professors, one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the  
20 Speaker of the House.

21           **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate  
22 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the  
23 commission.

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

32           **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall examine and make  
33 recommendations on the use of adjunct professors in the University of Maine System and  
34 the Maine Community College System, including, but not limited to, an examination of:

35           1. Recruitment and retention issues;

36           2. Creation of a career path for adjunct professors;

- 1 3. Expansion of the role of adjunct professors in student retention and success;
- 2 4. Expansion of access to health care for adjunct professors; and
- 3 5. Identification of funding needs for the recommendations of the commission.

4 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide  
5 necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff  
6 support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

7 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than November 4, 2020, the  
8 commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations,  
9 including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and  
10 Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This resolve establishes the Commission To Study the Use of Adjunct Professors in  
13 Maine's Public University and College System. The commission is directed to examine  
14 and make recommendations on the use of adjunct professors in the University of Maine  
15 System and the Maine Community College System, including, but not limited to, an  
16 examination of recruitment and retention issues, creation of a career path for adjunct  
17 professors, expansion of the role of adjunct professors in student retention and success,  
18 expansion of access to health care for adjunct professors and identification of funding  
19 needs for the recommendations of the commission. The commission must report its  
20 findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and  
21 Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing.