

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 966

H.P. 712

House of Representatives, March 9, 2021

**Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study Fair, Equitable and
Competitive Tax Policy for Maine's Working Families and Small
Businesses**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Taxation 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 CHIPMAN of Cumberland and
Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, MATLACK of St. George, TERRY of
Gorham.

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 Study Fair, Equitable and
4 Competitive Tax Policy for Maine's Working Families and Small Businesses, the duties of
5 which are to determine the effects of current tax policy on working families and propose
6 changes to make those policies fairer to working families; and

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

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

14 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission To Study
15 Fair, Equitable and Competitive Tax Policy for Maine's Working Families and Small
16 Businesses, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

17 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule
18 353, the commission consists of 14 members appointed as follows:

19 1. Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including a
20 member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

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

24 3. Four members appointed by the Governor:

25 A. One member representing the Office of the Governor;

26 B. One member representing a statewide organization that represents the interests of
27 municipalities;

28 C. One member representing a statewide organization that represents farming interests;
29 and

30 D. One member who is a tax policy expert;

31 4. One public member representing the interests of small businesses and one public
32 member representing the interests of working families, appointed by the President of the
33 Senate; and

34 5. One public member representing the interests of small businesses and one public
35 member representing the interests of working families, appointed by the Speaker of the
36 House.

37 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
38 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
39 commission.

