

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 1111

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S.P. 373

In Senate, March 22, 2021

**An Act To Update the Statutes Governing Membership of the Board  
of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes**

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Received by the Secretary of the Senate on March 18, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LUCHINI of Hancock.

Cosponsored by Senator: FARRIN of Somerset, Representative: CAIAZZO of Scarborough.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §603**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 397, §10 and PL 2019, c.  
3 377, §6, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 **§603. Board of trustees**

5 **1. Administration of the homes.** The administration of the homes is vested in the  
6 Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes, as authorized by Title 5, section 12004-G,  
7 subsection 34.

8 **2. Appointment; composition.** The board consists of 11 members, one of whom must  
9 be the Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, ex officio, who serves without  
10 term. The Governor shall appoint the remaining members. The board shall submit a list  
11 of nominees to the Governor for the Governor's consideration. The board shall request  
12 established veterans' service organizations with chapters in the State and organizations and  
13 individuals who have demonstrated leadership in their fields to submit names of nominees  
14 to the board. The membership of the board must reflect the diversity of the State, including,  
15 but not limited to, diversity in geographic location, cultural and ethnic background, sexual  
16 orientation, gender identity and professional experience. The majority of board members  
17 must be honorably discharged veterans.

18 **3. Terms; vacancies.** Except for the Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans'  
19 Services, board members serve 3-year terms and are limited to serving 3 full terms or no  
20 more than 9 consecutive years. In the event of a vacancy, a successor may be appointed to  
21 complete a member's unexpired term or to a new 3-year term. Each member continues to  
22 hold office until a successor is appointed.

23 **Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §604, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 676, §2, is further  
24 amended to read:

25 **2. Meetings.** The board shall meet at least ~~6~~ 4 times annually. Six members constitute  
26 a quorum.

27 **Sec. 3. 37-B MRSA §604, sub-§3**, as corrected by RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. B, §44, is  
28 amended to read:

29 **3. Selection of officers.** At its first annual meeting each year, ~~which must be held in~~  
30 ~~July each year~~, the board shall elect a chair, vice-chair, treasurer and secretary for that fiscal  
31 year.

32 **Sec. 4. 37-B MRSA §606**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 397, §13, is further amended  
33 to read:

34 **§606. Chief executive officer**

35 The chief executive officer ~~must be an honorably discharged veteran who~~ shall  
36 administer the homes in accordance with the rules, guidelines and general policies  
37 established by the board. The chief executive officer serves an indefinite term, but may be  
38 removed for cause by the board. The chief executive officer's salary is set by the board.  
39 The chief executive officer shall hire the necessary employees to operate the homes and,  
40 whenever possible, give preference in hiring to veterans. These employees are not deemed  
41 employees of the State.

