MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1872

H.P. 1382

House of Representatives, January 5, 2022

Resolve, To Create a Task Force Relating to the Water Quality of Saco Bay

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

Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative COPELAND of Saco. Cosponsored by Senator BAILEY of York and

Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, O'NEIL of Saco.

Sec. 1. Task force to coordinate data to improve water quality of Saco Bay. Resolved: That, no later than September 1, 2022, the Department of Environmental Protection shall convene a task force to integrate data from multiple studies of the water quality of Saco Bay to identify sources of pollution and develop recommendations to remove those sources or lessen the pollution from those sources with the overall goal of improving water quality and increasing access to recreational and economic activity in the bay. The task force must include a broad range of interested persons, including, but not limited to, representatives of environmental groups, municipal, state and federal officials and persons with policy expertise in issues related to water quality improvement. By October 1, 2023, the department shall submit a report including findings and recommendations of the task force to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environmental protection matters.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to convene a task force to integrate data from multiple studies of the water quality of Saco Bay to identify sources of pollution in the bay and develop recommendations to remove those sources or lessen the pollution from those sources. The department must convene the task force by September 1, 2022 and submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environmental protection matters by October 1, 2023.