

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 5/25/23 Report "A" LD 697
(Filing No H-237)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P 466, L D 697, "Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G Technology on Bird, Bee and Insect Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following

'Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G and Other Non-ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology on Bird, Bee, Insect and Other Wildlife Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children'

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following

'Sec. 1. Independent Commission to Study the Effects of 5G and Other Non-ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology established. Resolved: That the Independent Commission to Study the Effects of 5G and Other Non-ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology, referred to in this resolve as "the independent commission," is established

Sec. 2. Independent commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the independent commission consists of 11 members appointed as follows

1 Five members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows

A Two members of the Senate, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature,

B One member with expertise in radio frequency and biomedical engineering and electromagnetics and with experience teaching this subject matter at the university level,

C One member with expertise in wildlife biology and with experience teaching this subject matter at the university level, and

D One member with research experience in electromagnetic field and wireless technology policy,

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

- 1 2 Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows
- 2 A Two members of the House of Representatives, including one member from each
- 3 of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature,
- 4 B One member with expertise in physics and engineering and with experience teaching
- 5 in the field of occupational health at the university level,
- 6 C One member with expertise in public health policy and research experience in
- 7 disease prevention related to the effects of electromagnetic radiation exposure, and
- 8 D One member with expertise in entomology and wildlife biology and experience in
- 9 the study of the effects of radio frequency radiation exposure, and
- 10 3 One member representing the public with experience living with a health condition
- 11 related to electromagnetic radiation exposure, appointed by the Governor
- 12 A person may not be appointed to or serve on the independent commission unless that
- 13 person has certified to the appointing authority that the person has no direct financial
- 14 interest in wireless communication services, technology companies or wireless industry
- 15 organizations For the purposes of this paragraph, "direct financial interest" includes, but is
- 16 not limited to, receiving funding for research or compensation for consultation services
- 17 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
- 18 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
- 19 independent commission
- 20 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of independent commission. Resolved:**
- 21 That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of
- 22 this resolve The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the
- 23 Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed After appointment of all
- 24 members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the independent
- 25 commission If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not
- 26 all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative
- 27 Council may grant authority for the independent commission to meet and conduct its
- 28 business
- 29 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the independent commission shall
- 30 1 Review federal and state laws and regulations governing wireless communication
- 31 facilities and the history of the development of those laws and regulations,
- 32 2 Through briefings provided by independent commission members or nonmembers
- 33 with relevant expertise, review scientific literature, experimental research and studies, with
- 34 a focus on peer-reviewed, published studies and other publications by experts who are not
- 35 compensated by a for-profit entity involved in so-called 5G wireless technology or in other
- 36 wireless technology or in the utility industry, that have investigated or are intended to
- 37 understand the effects of so-called 5G wireless technology and other non-ionizing radio
- 38 frequency radiation-emitting wireless technology The independent commission shall focus
- 39 its review on the effects of this technology on the populations, habitats and migrations of
- 40 A Birds,
- 41 B Bees and insects, and
- 42 C Other wildlife populations, as determined by the independent commission,

1 3 Through briefings provided by independent commission members or nonmembers
 2 with relevant expertise, review scientific literature, experimental research and studies, with
 3 a focus on peer-reviewed, published studies and other publications by experts who are not
 4 compensated by a for-profit entity involved in so-called 5G wireless technology or in other
 5 wireless technology or in the utility industry, that have investigated so-called 5G wireless
 6 technology and other non-ionizing radio frequency radiation-emitting wireless technology,
 7 at nonthermal levels for extended periods of time or in acute doses to children, including
 8 animal studies intended to provide information on the risk of cancer, oxidative stress,
 9 changes in neurological function and brain development and reproductive function. In
 10 conducting its review under this subsection, the independent commission may include a
 11 comparison of real-world measurements of the current levels of radio frequency radiation
 12 in educational settings to the recommended levels that have been identified in independent
 13 research studies, including in vivo, in vitro and epidemiological studies,

14 4 Solicit feedback from individuals with experience in business, law and public policy
 15 as needed for the independent commission to complete its duties, and consult with
 16 individuals with expertise in environmental health, medicine and occupational health,
 17 toxicology and epidemiology,

18 5 Review the findings and recommendations contained in the November 1, 2020 final
 19 report of the New Hampshire Commission to Study the Environmental and Health Effects
 20 of Evolving 5G Technology that are relevant to and within the scope of the independent
 21 commission's duties,

22 6 Identify relevant findings and considerations from the review of scientific literature
 23 and experimental research and studies that may be unique to the State, including, but not
 24 limited to, possible effects on agriculture, apiculture and tourism, and

25 7 Develop policy recommendations and questions, if any, for consideration by the
 26 Legislature, informed by the independent commission's work studying the effects of so-
 27 called 5G wireless technology and other non-ionizing radio frequency radiation-emitting
 28 wireless technology on children and bird, bee, insect and other wildlife populations

29 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the
 30 Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the independent
 31 commission, except that the Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the
 32 Legislature is in regular or special session

33 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 6, 2023, the independent
 34 commission shall submit a report that includes a summary of its activities and
 35 recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
 36 and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs '

37 Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
 38 section number to read consecutively

39 **SUMMARY**

40 This resolve creates the Independent Commission to Study the Effects of 5G and Other
 41 Non-ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology. The independent
 42 commission is directed to review scientific literature related to the effects of so-called 5G
 43 wireless technology and other non-ionizing radio frequency radiation-emitting wireless

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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1 technology on bird, bee, insect and other wildlife populations and to study the effects of
2 long-term and acute exposure to 5G and other non-ionizing radio frequency radiation-
3 emitting wireless technology and radio frequency radiation on children The independent
4 commission is required to report findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy,
5 Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural
6 Affairs no later than December 6, 2023

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 697

LR 2363(02)

Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G Technology on Bird, Bee and Insect Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-237)
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$3,050 in fiscal year 2023-24. The Legislature's proposed budget for the 2024-2025 biennium includes \$14,500 in each of fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$2,234 in projected balances from fiscal year 2022-23 and \$36,777 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.