

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SA
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L D 1824

Date 6/14/23

(Filing No S-305)

MINORITY

JUDICIARY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

131ST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S P 740, L D 1824, "Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine"

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following

'Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 12 voting members as follows

1 Four members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature,

2 Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature,

3 One constitutional law scholar with expertise in the history of the Constitution of Maine or member of the Maine State Bar Association who has substantial practice experience with legal issues related to the Constitution of Maine appointed by the President of the Senate,

4 One member of a federally recognized Indian tribe in the State appointed by the Speaker of the House,

5 One representative of the state chapter of a national civil liberties organization appointed by the Speaker of the House, and

6 The Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's designee

The chairs of the commission shall invite the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to designate a member of the judicial branch to serve as a nonvoting member of the commission in an advisory capacity '

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 7 and inserting the following

'Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 6, 2024, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested resolutions to amend the Constitution of Maine, for presentation to the joint standing

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters The joint standing
2 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters may submit
3 legislation, including a resolution to amend the Constitution of Maine, based on the
4 findings and recommendations in the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025 '

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

7 **SUMMARY**

8 The amendment changes the membership of the Commission to Study the Constitution
9 of Maine and allows the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
10 over judiciary matters to submit legislation, including a resolution to amend the
11 Constitution of Maine, based on the findings and recommendations in the report to the
12 132nd Legislature in 2025

13 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

14 **(See attached)**



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1824

LR 2155(02)

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A (S-305)"
Committee: Judiciary

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$8,400 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$8,650 in fiscal year 2024-25. 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.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Secretary of State and to the Judicial Department associated with serving on the commission can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.