

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SPECIAL SESSION

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E I G H T Y - N I N T H   L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1258**

S. P. 782

In Senate, July 24, 1940.

Read once, tabled by Senator Tompkins of Aroostook pending assignment for second reading and 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY

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**AN ACT Creating a Legislative Investigating Committee.**

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

**Legislative investigation committee created.** Chapter 2 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section to be numbered 113-D, and to read as follows:

**‘Sec. 113-D. Legislative investigating committee.** There is hereby created a “legislative investigating committee” to consist of 7 members to be appointed and to hold office as follows: 3 members, not more than 2 of whom shall be members of the majority party, shall be appointed by the president of the senate of the 90th legislature from the membership of the senate of the 90th legislature, to hold office during the existence of the 90th legislature; 4 members, not more than 3 of whom shall be members of the majority party, shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of the 90th legislature from the membership of the house of the 90th legislature, to hold office during the existence of the 90th legislature.

Thereafter each president of the senate shall appoint 3 members not more than 2 of whom shall be members of the majority party, of the senate over which he presides to hold office until the next legislature is convened; and each speaker of the house shall appoint 4 members, not more than 3 of whom shall be members of the majority party, of the house over which he presides, to hold office until the next legislature is convened.

This committee is authorized and empowered to conduct or cause to be conducted a study of all activities of each and every state department, agency or commission, to determine the manner in which the affairs of such department, agency or commission, are, or have been conducted, and whether or not state laws are being, or have been complied with, and what, if any, legislation may be advisable to promote efficient, economical and effective administration of such department, agency or commission, in compliance with state laws and with avoidance of duplicated functions.

Said committee is hereby authorized and empowered to employ counsel, investigators and agents, compel the attendance of witnesses to testify under oath, punish for contempt, and require the production of books, papers, documents, records and other evidence and said committee may direct the issuing of subpoenas for the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such documents, and designate one of its members to issue such subpoenas. All state officials and their departmental subordinates and employees having in their possession or custody such books, records, or papers pertaining to the business of the state shall make the same available for inspection to the committee, its counsel or its authorized investigators or agents at all reasonable times upon reasonable notice.

This committee shall meet once each month when the legislature is not in session and as often in addition thereto as it deems advisable. It shall make such report to any special session, and/or to the next incoming session as it shall deem advisable, together with any bill or bills for proper remedial legislation.

The members of this committee shall receive \$ 10 for each day spent on the business of the committee together with the necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

All expenses incurred by the committee in the discharge of its duties shall be paid from the appropriation for the legislative department upon vouchers approved by the committee on appropriations and financial affairs.'