

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 210**

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S. P. 120

In Senate, January 26, 1951.

Referred to Committee on Public Buildings and Parks. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Weeks of Cumberland.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Create a State Recreation Commission.**

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

**R. S., c. 32, §§ 32-A - 32-F, additional.** Chapter 32 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 6 new sections to be numbered 32-A to 32-F, inclusive, to read as follows:

**'State Recreation Commission**

**Sec. 32-A. Recreation commission.** There is hereby created an agency to be known as the "Maine Recreation Commission."

**Sec. 32-B. Definitions.** For the purposes of sections 32-A to 32-F, inclusive, the following words shall have the following meanings:

"Recreation" shall mean those activities which are diversionary in character and which aid in promoting entertainment, pleasure, relaxation, instruction and other physical, mental and cultural developments and experiences of a leisure-time nature.

"Commission" shall mean the Maine recreation commission.

"Committee" shall mean the advisory recreation committee.

**Sec. 32-C. Membership of recreation commission; term.** The recreation commission shall consist of 7 members, appointed by the governor, and the governor, commissioner of education, commissioner of health and welfare and the superintendent of the Maine state park commission as members ex officio.

In making appointments to the commission, the governor shall choose persons, in so far as possible, who understand the recreational interests of rural areas, municipalities, private membership groups and commercial enterprises. The commission shall elect, with the approval of the governor, 1 member to act as chairman. At least 1 member of the commission shall be a woman. A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum, but only when at least 4 of the appointed members are present.

For the initial term of the appointed members of the commission, one shall be appointed for a term of 1 year, one for a term of 2 years, one for a term of 3 years, one for a term of 4 years, one for a term of 5 years, and 2 for a term of 6 years; and thereafter, the successor of each member shall be appointed for a term of 4 years and until his successor is appointed and qualified.

Any appointed member of the commission may be removed by the governor. Vacancies in the commission shall be filled by the governor for the unexpired term.

The commission shall meet quarterly in January, April, July and October, on a date to be fixed by the chairman. The commission may be convoked at such other times as the governor or chairman may deem necessary.

Members of the commission shall receive reasonable travel and maintenance expenses while attending meetings, but they shall not be reimbursed for travel and maintenance expenses for longer than 4 days for any 1 meeting.

**Sec. 32-D. Duties of the commission.** It shall be the duty of the commission:

- I. To study and appraise recreational needs of the state and to assemble and disseminate information relative to recreation;
- II. To cooperate in the promotion and organization of local recreational systems for counties, municipalities, townships and other political subdivisions of the state, and to aid them in designing and laying out recreational areas and facilities, and to advise them in the planning and financing of recreational programs;

III. To aid in recruiting, training and placing recreation workers, and promote recreation institutes and conferences;

IV. To establish and promote recreational standards;

V. To cooperate with state and federal agencies, the recreation advisory committee, private membership groups, and with commercial recreational interests, in the promotion of recreational opportunities;

VI. To submit a biennial report of its activities to the governor.

Sec. 32-E. Powers of commission. The commission is hereby authorized:

I. To make rules and regulations for the proper administration of its duties;

II. To accept any grant of funds from any agency thereof, for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions;

III. To accept gifts, bequests, devises and endowments. The funds, if given as an endowment, shall be invested in such securities as designated by the donor, or, if there is no designation, in those in which the state sinking fund may be invested. All such gifts, bequests, devises and all proceeds from such invested endowments, shall be used for carrying out the purpose for which they are made;

IV. To administer all funds available to the commission;

V. To act jointly, when advisable, with any state agency, institution, department, board or commission in order to carry out the recreation commission's objectives and responsibilities. No activity of the commission, however, shall be allowed to interfere with the work of any other state agency;

VI. To employ, with the approval of the governor, an executive director and, upon the recommendation of the executive director, such other persons as may be needed to carry out the provisions of sections 32-A to 32-F, inclusive. The executive director shall act as secretary to the commission.

Sec. 32-F. Advisory committee. The governor shall name a recreation advisory committee consisting of 30 members who shall serve for a term of 2 years. The governor shall name 1 member to act as a chairman of the committee. Vacancies occurring on the committee shall be filled by the governor for the unexpired term.

**Members of the committee shall represent, in so far as feasible, all groups and phases of beneficial recreation in the state.**

**The committee shall meet once each year with the recreation commission at a time and place to be fixed by the governor. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation.**

**The committee shall act in an advisory capacity to the recreation commission, discuss recreational needs of the state, exchange ideas and make to the commission recommendations for the advancement of recreational opportunities.'**