MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1396

S. P. 589

In Senate, May 15, 1951.

Taken from the table by Senator Boucher of Androscoggin. Senate Amendments A and B adopted. Resolution as amended adopted. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE

JOINT RESOLUTION, Appointing a Committee of Citizens to Study the Government of Maine.

Whereas, the expansion of the functions of government has produced an organization of authorities with a division of responsibilities among local, state and federal units beyond the ability of the people to readily comprehend, and

Whereas, a better public understanding of the structure of government is essential to an enduring faith of the people in the effectiveness of government in the promotion of the general welfare, and

Whereas, the 95th Legislature of Maine believes that the need for public understanding can be met only through the active participation of the citizens of the state in study and discussion of the affairs of government, to the end that existing policies and methods may be tested for their worth,

Be it Resolved, the House concurring, that the Maine Legislature hereby invites and requests the Governor in his discretion to appoint a committee of citizens, to be composed of members of both major political parties, of such number and of such representation of interests and occupations as he may deem desirable, to study, in cooperation with the Legislative Research Committee, the government of Maine in all its organizations, ramifications

and relationships with a view to recommend to the 96th Legislature such actions as may be deemed appropriate to improve efficiency, to reduce costs, and to promote an enlightened participation by the people in the formulation of public policy, and

Be it Further Resolved, that such committee of citizens shall perform its duties without compensation except for the necessary expenses of its members in making their studies and rendering their services, including necessary clerical and secretarial help, costs of special investigations and surveys, and the publication of its findings, and that the Governor and Executive Council be requested to provide such funds as in their judgment may be necessary for these purposes from the Contingent Account.