

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 1397

H. P. 1817

House of Representatives, May 15, 1951

Reported by Mr. Brown from Committee on Natural Resources. Printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Water Pollution.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 72, § 1, repealed and replaced. Section 1 of chapter 72 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 1. Water improvement commission; organization. The water improvement commission, hereinafter in this chapter called the “commission,” shall consist of the commissioner of health and welfare, who shall serve during his term of office, and 6 members appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, 2 of whom shall represent manufacturing interests of the state, 2 of whom shall be representatives of municipalities, and 2 of whom shall represent the public generally. The members appointed by the governor shall be initially appointed as follows: 2 for terms of 1 year, 2 for terms of 2 years, and 2 for terms of 3 years. At the expiration of the term of original appointment or any subsequent appointment each member shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, and until his successor is appointed and duly qualified.

The members appointed by the governor shall receive no compensation for their services but all members shall receive necessary travelling ex-

penses for attending any meetings of the commission or for any other travel in connection with the official business of the commission and under the specific authority of the commission, which travelling expenses shall be paid out of the general fund but which under no circumstances shall exceed for any fiscal year the amount of \$100 for each member.

Meetings of the commission shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined by the commission but not less than 2 meetings per year shall be held. The commission shall organize by electing one of its members as chairman but in his absence any other member of the commission shall be elected to act as chairman. The commission shall also elect a secretary who need not be chosen from among the members of the commission. Four members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

The commission may employ, subject to the provisions of the personnel law, and prescribe the powers and duties of such employees and consultants as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. Technical services shall be performed insofar as practicable by personnel of the department of health and welfare and by other state departments, agencies and offices.

It shall be the duty of the commission to study, investigate, and from time to time recommend to the persons responsible for the conditions, ways and means, so far as practicable and consistent with the public interest, of controlling the pollution of the rivers, waters and coastal flats of the state by the deposit therein or thereon of municipal sewage, industrial waste, and other substances and materials insofar as the same are detrimental to the public health or to animal, fish or aquatic life, or to the practicable and beneficial use of said rivers, waters and coastal flats. The commission may in its discretion from time to time make recommendations to the legislature with respect to the classification of the rivers, waters and coastal flats and parts thereof within the state, based upon reasonable standards of quality and use which shall be consistent with the provisions of this chapter.'

Sec. 2. Change of name. Wherever in chapter 72 of the revised statutes, as amended, the word "board" or the words "sanitary water board" appear, they are hereby changed to read 'water improvement commission.'