

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 7, 1994 to June 30, 1995

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 29, 1995

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1995

4. Establish criteria upon which loans may be awarded.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 16

S.P. 382 - L.D. 1059

Resolve, to Establish a Paper Industry Council

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Commission on the Future of Maine's Paper Industry believes any study benefits by a follow-up on its recommendations; and

Whereas, the commission found that nowhere in State Government is there an entity charged specifically with the welfare of the industry such as exists for blueberries, lobsters, potatoes and tourism; and

Whereas, the commission would like implementation of its recommendations to receive early attention because of immediate need for some of them to be implemented, in order to take advantage of the attention that the commission's actions has focused on the subject and in order to be part of the emerging priorities of a new Governor and a new Legislature; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Paper Industry Council established. Resolved: That the Paper Industry Council, referred to in this resolve as the "council," is established; and be it further

Sec. 2. Appointment of members. Resolved: That the council consists of 13 members. The Governor shall appoint one person from each of the following: the Department of Conservation, the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation, the University of Maine System, an electric utility, a railroad, organized labor and the environmental community; and 3 members from the paper industry. The President of the Senate shall appoint one Senator and the Speaker

of the House of Representatives shall appoint one Representative.

Council members appointed may not act as advocates of the group from which appointed but shall act in the best interest of the State as a whole.

All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making their appointments. The executive director shall contact any appointing authority whose appointments have not been made within the required time period in order to remind the appointing authority of the deadline for these appointments and that the council has the right to meet without waiting for all appointments to be made; and be it further

Sec. 3. Convening of council. Resolved: That the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the study commission between the 30th and 45th days following the effective date of this resolve. If the first meeting of the council is not called within that time period, the Governor shall call the first meeting. A quorum is a majority of the members appointed at the time of the vote; and be it further

Sec. 4. Selection of chair. Resolved: That the member from the Department of Economic and Community Development shall chair the first meeting at the conclusion of which the members shall elect a permanent chair; and be it further

Sec. 5. Tasks. Resolved: That the council shall accomplish the following tasks.

1. The initial priority is to oversee implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Maine's Paper Industry, which was created by Resolve 1993, chapter 75.

2. The council's long-term task is to recommend to all interested parties ways in which the future of the paper industry may be enhanced, while concurrently enhancing employment, the environment and the state budget. The council shall oversee the implementation and evaluation of its recommended programs; and be it further

Sec. 6. Staffing. Resolved: That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall provide staffing and clerical support to the council; and be it further

Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved: That for each day's attendance at meetings when the Legislature is not in session, council members who are Legislators receive the legislative per diem as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2 and reimbursement for travel and other necessary

expenses, upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council; and be it further

Sec. 8. Report. Resolved: That the council shall produce a written report of its success in accomplishing its task of overseeing the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Paper Industry and shall submit the written report and an oral report to the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development.

The council shall submit its reports no later than February 15, 1996 and, no later than the adjournment date of each session of the Legislature, shall determine whether to continue its activities for the next year; and be it further

Sec. 9. Budget. Resolved: That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall administer the council's budget; and be it further

Sec. 10. Funding. Resolved: That the council may seek, accept and expend public and private funding to support its activities.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

Effective May 31, 1995.

CHAPTER 17

S.P. 378 - L.D. 1055

Resolve, Requiring a Study of the State's Export Financing Services

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, a key to economic development in this State, more so than in most states, lies in access to global markets; and

Whereas, studies have shown that on a national basis it is small businesses that are least apt to take advantage of export financing assistance and Maine is a state of small businesses; and

Whereas, it is important to identify any gaps or weaknesses and build upon any strengths in the current export financing programs available to Maine firms; and

Whereas, it is important to identify and correct any weaknesses in the State's current export financing program; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Study required. Resolved: That the Maine World Trade Association, referred to in this resolve as the "association," shall organize and staff a study group whose purposes are to review the export financing programs and services provided to businesses in Maine and make recommendations for their improvement or expansion; and be it further

Sec. 2. Study members. Resolved: That the study group must include, but not be limited to, representatives of organizations offering the export financing programs and services and businesses that seek to use them. The majority of the group must be comprised of representatives of private businesses; and be it further

Sec. 3. Programs to be studied. Resolved: That the study group shall research the existing export finance programs in Maine, including, but not limited to, those offered by the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Finance Authority of Maine, the Small Business Administration and the Export-Import Bank of the United States; and be it further

Sec. 4. User survey. Resolved: That the study group shall survey banks and businesses, particularly small businesses, to determine their awareness and use of the currently available export financing programs and services; and be it further

Sec. 5. Reporting date. Resolved: That the study group shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, together with any implementing legislation on how to improve the availability of, and access to, export finance programs in Maine, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters by January 1, 1996 and shall make an oral report to that committee by February 1, 1996.

The written report must include numerical objectives, costs and an evaluation plan for the program presented. It must also include a provision for assigning and enforcing accountability for those who may receive state funds as part of the program. The report must prioritize the recommended programs within the State's overall economic development goals