

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**  
**ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 5, 2000 to May 12, 2000**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**AUGUST 11, 2000**

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

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**J.S. McCarthy Company**  
**Augusta, Maine**  
**2000**

**Sec. 6. Working groups. Resolved:** That the commission may form advisory working groups from among affected agencies, representatives of the business community, representatives of environmental groups, organizations devoted to economic growth and the public to help carry out its responsibilities; and be it further

**Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That members of the commission are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Participants in the advisory working groups serve without compensation; and be it further

**Sec. 8. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further

**Sec. 9. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit a report and any implementing legislation by December 1, 2001 to the joint standing committees of the Legislature represented on the commission. If the commission requires a limited extension of time to conclude its study and make its report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters may report out a bill regarding an environmental leadership program to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature; and be it further

**Sec. 10. Commission budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the commission, with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative Council for approval. The commission may not incur expenses that would result in the commission exceeding its approved budget; and be it further

**Sec. 11. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

2000-01

## LEGISLATURE

### Commission to Study the Establishment of an Environmental Leadership Program

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Personal Services | \$3,520 |
| All Other         | 3,700   |

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Commission to Study the Establishment of an Environmental Leadership Program and to print the required report.

## LEGISLATURE TOTAL

\$7,220

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 135

### H.P. 1755 - L.D. 2461

### Resolve, to Create a Commission to Study and Establish Moral Policies Regarding Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State

**Preamble.** Whereas, Maine is a state that upholds the dignity of every human being, promotes basic human rights and supports social and economic justice; and

**Whereas,** Maine is a state that believes employers should fairly compensate hard work, that the health and safety of working people should be protected and that all forms of unlawful discrimination and abuse should not be tolerated; and

**Whereas,** there are manufacturers in foreign countries that do not share Maine's support of human rights and justice and those manufacturers' employment practices are characterized by poverty wages, forced overtime, child labor, unsafe and unhealthy workplace conditions and often abusive working conditions; and

**Whereas,** established international standards for ethical manufacturing are routinely violated; and

**Whereas,** sweatshops have been and continue to be a direct cause of job loss and depressed wages for citizens of Maine, whose employers relocate for cheap labor or threaten plant closings to force lower wages and contract concessions; and

**Whereas,** Maine can make a significant contribution to the campaigns against sweatshop manufacturing by supporting the enforcement of established ethical codes of corporate conduct; and

**Whereas,** there exists widespread popular support in Maine for the principle that purchases and investments by the State ought to be made under ethical conditions of production; now, therefore, be it

**Sec. 1. Commission to Study Economically and Socially Just Policies for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State established. Resolved:** That the Commission to Study Economically and Socially Just Policies for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Commission membership; appointments. Resolved:** That the commission consists of 12 members as follows:

1. Two members from the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom is a member of a political party that does not hold a majority of seats in that body;

2. Two members from the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom is a member of a political party that does not hold a majority of seats in that body;

3. Two members from groups involved in social investments or human rights issues, one appointed by the President and one appointed by the Speaker;

4. Two representatives of retail business, one appointed by the President and one appointed by the Speaker;

5. One representative of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases appointed by the Governor;

6. One member of the public appointed by the Governor;

7. One representative of labor unions appointed by the Governor; and

8. One representative of manufacturing and industry appointed by the Governor.

All appointments must be completed no later than August 18, 2000; and be it further

**Sec. 3. First meeting; chairs. Resolved:** That the first named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first named House member is the House chair of the commission. When the appointment of all members of the commission is completed, the commission chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission no later than August 31, 2000; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study the subject of economically and socially just policies for foreign investment and foreign purchasing by the State. In examining the

issue of economically and socially just policies for foreign investments and foreign purchasing, the commission shall evaluate the policies of other states. In its report, the commission shall propose standards concerning foreign companies that do business with the State and foreign companies invested in by the State. The commission shall consider such factors as child labor and exploitation of workers under unhealthy conditions. The commission shall make recommendations with regard to whether the State should do business with and invest in foreign companies that oppress or mistreat their workers. The commission shall identify the possible positive and negative impacts of proposed policies on Maine workers, Maine small businesses and Maine taxpayers; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the commission who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Other members of the commission who are not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission; and be it further

**Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall submit its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than November 15, 2000. If the commission requires a limited extension of time to conclude its work, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it further

**Sec. 8. Budget. Resolved:** That the chair of the commission, with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative Council for approval. The commission may not incur expenses that would result in the commission exceeding its approved budget. Upon request from the commission, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the commission chair and staff with a status report on the commission's budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available funds; and be it further

**Sec. 9. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

**2000-01**

## LEGISLATURE

### Commission to Study Economically and Socially Just Policies for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Personal Services | \$1,320 |
| All Other         | 3,500   |

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members and expenses for other eligible members of the Commission to Study Economically and Socially Just Policies for Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State and to print the required report.

## LEGISLATURE

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>\$4,820</b> |
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See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 136

**H.P. 1809 - L.D. 2535**

### Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Ownership Patterns in Maine

**Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission to Study Ownership Patterns in Maine, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of the following 13 members, all of whom must have a knowledge of and experience with Maine business and labor issues and the structure of the Maine economy:

1. The Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine or the chief executive officer's designee;

2. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee;

3. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the commissioner's designee;

4. Five members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

A. Two Senators, not from the same political party;

B. One representative from a large business in Maine or a statewide organization representing businesses in Maine;

C. One representative from organized labor; and

D. One representative from a bank in Maine; and

5. Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows:

A. Two members of the House of Representatives, not from the same political party;

B. One representative from a community development organization;

C. One representative from a Maine economic policy organization; and

D. One representative from a small business in Maine or a statewide organization representing businesses in Maine; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Appointments; chairs; meeting. Resolved:** That 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 once all appointments have been made. The first named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first named House of Representatives member is the House chair. The first meeting must be called by the chairs no later than 30 days after all the appointments have been made; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall investigate the current patterns of in-state, out-of-state and international ownership of Maine businesses. In conducting its study, the commission shall specifically:

1. Review the characteristics of businesses owned by in-state, out-of-state and international concerns, including the number and quality of jobs provided and the annual sales figures;

2. Study the impacts of changes of ownership on the state and local economies and on civic and environmental accountability;