

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 7, 2022 to March 30, 2023**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**April 5, 2023 to July 26, 2023**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 29, 2023**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2023**

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

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2023**

wholesale market design that provide equitable programs for a low-carbon electric grid;

3. A comprehensive understanding of integration issues related to distributed energy resources, energy storage and electric vehicles, demand-side management and advanced price signals;

4. Through references from at least 3 jurisdictions, experience in policy and structure redesign work performed for jurisdictions of a similar size to the State; and

5. Through case studies of prior work, experience in the development of clean technology in ways that integrate stakeholder perspectives in regulatory and policy proceedings.

**Sec. 6. Funding. Resolved:** That the office shall seek to fund the initial study under section 2 and part 2 of the study under section 3 with federal funds. The office shall pursue all federal funding opportunities that the office determines could be used to fund the study. For any portions of the study that cannot be funded through federal funds, the office shall submit a request to the Public Utilities Commission for the amounts necessary to fully fund the study. The office may request from the commission up to \$200,000 to fund the initial study and up to \$100,000 to fund part 2 of the study under section 3. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 117, subsection 3 and to the extent that funds are available, the commission shall distribute the requested funds to the office from the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fund established by Title 35-A, section 117.

**Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, if the consultant does not conclude that a DSO can be designed to achieve the objectives in section 2, the office shall present the initial study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters within 60 days of the completion of the consultant's initial study.

If the office authorizes part 2 of the study in accordance with section 3, by January 1, 2025, the office shall present the initial study developed by the consultant in accordance with section 2, part 2 of the study and the office's final report and recommendation in accordance with section 4 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters. The committee may report out a bill to the 132nd Legislature in 2025 related to the subject matter of the report.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 68**  
**H.P. 758 - L.D. 1198**

**Resolve, Directing the  
Commissioner of Economic  
and Community Development  
to Convene an Advisory  
Council to Improve the State's  
10-year Economic  
Development Strategy**

**Sec. 1. Statewide economic development strategy. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, referred to in this resolve as "the commissioner," shall update the State's economic development strategy to ensure that it provides a 10-year plan for economic development statewide. In updating the economic development strategy, the commissioner shall consult with the advisory council described in section 2. The plan may also be updated periodically, based on the input provided to the commissioner by the advisory council.

**Sec. 2. Economic development strategy advisory council. Resolved:** That the commissioner shall establish an advisory council to assist the commissioner in updating the State's economic development strategy. The advisory council must consist of members who have knowledge and experience in economic and community development in the State and must include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee;
2. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection or the commissioner's designee;
3. The Commissioner of Transportation or the commissioner's designee;
4. One member who is a representative of the University of Maine System;
5. One member who is a representative of the Maine Community College System;
6. The president of the Maine Development Foundation;
7. The Director of the Maine Arts Commission;
8. One member who is a representative of a statewide business association representing employers in the State;
9. One member who is a representative of an organization that serves as a regional planning agency serving the communities of Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford counties;
10. One member who is a representative of an organization working to serve the social and economic interests of federally recognized Indian tribes in the State;

11. One member who is a representative of an organization working to promote investment in agriculture, aquaculture and biopharmaceuticals;

12. One member who is a representative of an organization working to support people with resources through strategic giving, community leadership, personalized service, local expertise and strong investments; and

13. One member who is a representative of an organization that provides health care services in the State.

The commissioner shall also reach out to each member of the Maine Congressional Delegation and invite the member to join the advisory council.

**Sec. 3. Duties of the advisory council. Resolved:** That the advisory council established under section 2 shall meet periodically, as determined by the commissioner, to consider and develop improvements to the State’s economic development strategy, including, but not limited to:

1. The development of workforce skills;
2. The attraction and retention of a diverse workforce;
3. The creation and retention of quality jobs that add economic value or bring in money from outside the State;
4. The attraction of out-of-state investment and venture capital and how the State can successfully compete with other states for investment and venture capital;
5. The attraction of research and development opportunities;
6. The connection to and development of sectors essential for sustainable future growth including sectors involved in cutting-edge technologies;
7. Providing education that produces career-ready or college-ready graduates for the workforce continuum in the State and supports appropriate lifelong learning;
8. The best ways to promote stability and certainty in the economic environment;
9. Incentives and penalties that should be put in place to attract and support jobs;
10. Potential solutions to the economic disparity between the urban and rural areas of the State; and
11. Identifying the strategy's potential impacts on taxes, regulation, health care, energy costs and labor laws, as well as anything that affects the State's ability to compete for innovative companies and jobs that add economic value or bring in money from outside the State.

**Sec. 4. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 6, 2023, the commissioner shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business that includes a summary of the current economic development strategy and the commissioner’s progress in implementing the requirements of this resolve. The Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the information provided in the report.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 69**

**H.P. 103 - L.D. 162**

**Resolve, to Study the Establishment of a Substance Use Disorder Hotline**

**Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to study substance use disorder hotline. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services shall develop a plan to implement a hotline through the Maine Substance Use Disorders Learning Community organization to assist and provide guidance to primary care physicians and other providers in providing care to patients with substance use disorder. The department shall consult with stakeholders, including members of the Co-Occurring Collaborative Serving Maine currently partnering with the department to operate the Maine Substance Use Disorders Learning Community. The department shall study existing models of substance use disorder hotlines in other states, including Wisconsin and Massachusetts, to inform plan development. The plan must determine the level of funding that would be required to sustainably operate a hotline, the services that would be available to physicians and providers by the hotline, requirements for consistent staffing, hours of operation, response times and any other relevant information needed for successfully implementing a hotline through the Maine Substance Use Disorders Learning Community. The department shall submit a report with the plan, including any necessary legislation and appropriations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2024. The committee is authorized to report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

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