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.

Augusta, Maine 2023

- **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair of the commission and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission.
- Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. 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 completed. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business.
- **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall evaluate funding models and structures that allow for the sustained investment in the health and prosperity of youth and families in the State and make recommendations for further legislative action. The commission shall prioritize research and recommendations that:
- 1. Resolve the structural deficit in the Fund for a Healthy Maine;
- 2. Identify sources of sustained funding for reducing tobacco use, improving public health, preventing chronic illness, reducing health disparities across demographic and geographic populations and improving the community conditions that support good health and wellness;
- 3. Identify strategies and structural changes that resolve structural inequities and allow funding and investment plans to extend beyond the Legislature's 2-year budget cycle when doing so is necessary for accomplishing their intents and purposes;
- 4. Advance the long-term goals established by the Legislature for funds received from legal settlements with manufacturers and excise taxes on products that affect public health and well-being;
- 5. Identify policy and funding models that maximize alignment between the purpose and intent of public health funding sources and the investments in public health and prevention initiatives those funds support;
- 6. Identify how funding from various public healthrelated sources could be blended or pooled to achieve common aims in preventing chronic disease, reducing health disparities among historically disenfranchised and vulnerable populations and improving the community conditions that support the health and resilience of youth in the State; and
- 7. Identify strategies and system changes that would allow for the calculation of return on investment of all proposed public health and prevention measures

over a period of time using the projected health and productivity benefits of those investments.

- **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission except that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.
- Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 6, 2023, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. After receipt and review of the report, one or both of the joint standing committees may submit legislation relating to the subject matter of the report to any regular or special session of the 131st Legislature.
- **Sec. 8. Outside funding. Resolved:** That the commission may seek funding contributions to fully or partially fund the costs of the study. All funding is subject to approval by the Legislative Council in accordance with its policies.

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

Effective July 19, 2023.

CHAPTER 101 S.P. 312 - L.D. 754

Resolve, Directing the Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory Commission and the New England and Eastern Canada Legislative Commission to Examine Restoring Passenger Rail from Boston to Montreal

Sec. 1. Passenger rail from Boston to Montreal. Resolved: That the Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory Commission and the New England and Eastern Canada Legislative Commission shall examine restoring passenger rail from Boston, Massachusetts to Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The commissions shall submit a report with their findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by December 6, 2023.

See title page for effective date.