

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document	No. 1297

S.P. 527

In Senate, March 25, 2025

Resolve, to Establish the Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to Produce Biofuels

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

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DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook. Cosponsored by Representative QUINT of Hodgdon and Senator: BERNARD of Aroostook, Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, ARDELL of Monticello, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, GUERRETTE of Caribou, SWALLOW of Houlton, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

1 2 3	Sec. 1. Committee established. Resolved: That the Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to Produce Biofuels, referred to in this resolve as "the committee," is established.
4 5	Sec. 2. Committee membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the committee consists of 12 members appointed as follows:
6 7	1. One member of the Senate who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, appointed by the President of the Senate;
8 9	2. One member of the Senate who represents Aroostook County, appointed by the President of the Senate;
10 11 12	3. One member of the House of Representatives who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
13 14	4. One member of the House of Representatives who represents Aroostook County, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
15 16 17	5. Two members, one of whom represents the office of the senior United States Senator and one of whom represents the office of the junior United States Senator, appointed by the President of the Senate;
18 19	6. One member representing the office of United States Representative from the State's Second Congressional District, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
20 21	7. One member who serves on the Maine Potato Board, appointed by the President of the Senate;
22 23	8. One member representing the University of Maine at Presque Isle, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
24 25	9. One member representing the Maine Energy Marketers Association, appointed by the President of the Senate; and
26 27	10. Two members representing renewable energy companies in the State, appointed by the Speaker of the House.
28 29	Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved: That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the committee.
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of committee. 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 committee. 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 committee to meet and conduct its business.
38 39 40 41	Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the committee shall study the feasibility of using the State's sunflower crops to produce biofuels. As part of the study, the committee shall review current and past legislation and biofuel projects in Hawaii as a potential model for use in this State.

1 Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall provide 2 necessary staffing services to the committee, except that Legislative Council staff support 3 is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 3, 2025, the committee
shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and
Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.
The Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing
Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry are authorized to report out
legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

SUMMARY

12 This resolve establishes the Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to 13 Produce Biofuels, which is directed to study the feasibility of using the State's sunflower 14 crops to produce biofuels and review current and past legislation and biofuel projects in 15 Hawaii as a potential model for use in this State. The committee is required to submit a report and suggested legislation by December 3, 2025 to the Joint Standing Committee on 16 17 Energy, Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, 18 Conservation and Forestry, which are authorized to report out legislation based on the 19 report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

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