

Date:

(Filing No. H-)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 130TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 322, L.D. 446, “An Act To Reestablish the State Planning Office”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Research and Recommend Solutions for Regional and Municipal Planning'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission To Research and Recommend Solutions for Regional and Municipal Planning, referred to in this resolve as “the commission,” is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 15 members appointed as follows:

1. Four members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, 2 from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Senate;
2. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, 2 from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the House;
3. One municipal planner appointed by the President of the Senate;
4. One regional planner appointed by the President of the Senate;
5. One planning professional from the private sector appointed by the President of the Senate;
6. One transportation planner from the Department of Transportation appointed by the Governor;
7. One representative from the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future appointed by the Governor;
8. One representative from the Department of Economic and Community Development appointed by the Governor; and

1 9. One representative from the Department of Environmental Protection appointed by
2 the Governor.

3 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
4 and the first-named House member is the House chair of the commission.

5 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all
6 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
7 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
8 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
9 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more
10 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
11 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for
12 the commission to meet and conduct its business.

13 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall research and recommend
14 solutions to promote, coordinate and provide direct support for comprehensive and
15 sustainable municipal and regional planning, and consider topics including, but not limited
16 to:

17 1. Strategies to incentivize innovation, collaboration, shared resources and the adoption
18 of new technologies within and among Maine’s municipalities; and

19 2. Approaches to provide expertise and resources to municipalities to build out and
20 scale up local and regional plans in furtherance of statewide goals for economic growth and
21 climate change response.

22 The commission shall hold public hearings to incorporate feedback from stakeholders
23 representing broad interests including, but not limited to, municipal and county officials,
24 community and economic development professionals, real estate developers, public health
25 advocates and natural resources and land trust conservation leaders.

26 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide the
27 necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff support
28 is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

29 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than
30 December 31, 2022, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and
31 recommendations, including suggested legislation to the joint standing committee of the
32 Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters. The committee
33 may submit legislation based on the report to the First Regular Session of the 131st
34 Legislature.'

35 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
36 number to read consecutively.

37 SUMMARY

38 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with
39 a resolve to establish a 15-member commission to research and recommend solutions to
40 promote, coordinate and provide direct support for comprehensive and sustainable
41 municipal and regional planning. The commission is required to submit a report to the joint

- 1 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government
- 2 matters by December 31, 2022.