



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1005

H.P. 743

House of Representatives, March 10, 2021

**Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study Strategies To Assist
Working-class Families in Building Wealth and Achieving Upward
Mobility**

Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAILEY of Gorham, EVANS of Dover-Foxcroft,
GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MEYER of Eliot, MORALES of South Portland,
TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

1 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission To Study
2 Strategies To Assist Working-class Families in Building Wealth and Achieving Upward
3 Mobility, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

4 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of
5 11 members appointed as follows:

6 1. Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including a
7 member of each of the following joint standing committees:

8 A. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing;

9 B. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services; and

10 C. The Joint Standing Committee on Taxation;

11 2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
12 House, including a member of each of the following joint standing committees:

13 A. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing;

14 B. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services; and

15 C. The Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
16 Advancement and Business;

17 3. Two members of the public who represent low-wage workers and recipients of
18 public benefits, appointed by the President of the Senate;

19 4. One member of the public who represents business and industry, appointed by the
20 Speaker of the House;

21 5. One member who represents higher education, appointed by the Speaker of the
22 House; and

23 6. One member who represents a trade union, appointed by the Governor.

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

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

35 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall examine and make
36 recommendations on the feasibility of providing every child at birth a publicly funded bond
37 to assist working-class families and to reduce racial and geographic wealth disparities in
38 the State.

39 In fulfilling its duties under this section, the commission shall as necessary invite input
40 from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue
41 Services and from the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future.

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

4 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 1, 2021, the commission
5 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
6 legislation, for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

7 **Sec. 8. Outside funding. Resolved:** That the commission shall seek funding
8 contributions to fully fund the costs of the study. All funding is subject to approval by the
9 Legislative Council in accordance with its policies. If sufficient contributions to fund the
10 study have not been received within 30 days after the effective date of this resolve, no
11 meetings are authorized and no expenses of any kind may be incurred or reimbursed.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This resolve establishes the Commission To Study Strategies To Assist Working-class
14 Families in Building Wealth and Achieving Upward Mobility to examine and make
15 recommendations on the feasibility of providing every child at birth a publicly funded bond
16 to assist working-class families and to reduce racial and geographic wealth disparities in
17 the State.