1	L.D. 1073
2	Date: (Filing No. S-)
3	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
4	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.
5	STATE OF MAINE
6	SENATE
7	130TH LEGISLATURE
8	FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
9 10	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " "to S.P. 341, L.D. 1073, "Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Research Effective Strategies and Efficiencies of Legislatures"
11	Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:
12 13	'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
14 15	Whereas, the effective and efficient functioning of the Legislature is essential to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and the economy of the State; and
16 17 18 19 20	Whereas, the early adjournment of the 129th Legislature and the significant adjustments to the operation of the 130th Legislature required in response to the novel coronavirus disease 2019, referred to as COVID-19, provide the Legislature with new information and a unique opportunity to reevaluate the procedures, policies and practices that have historically governed the operation of the Legislature; and
21 22	Whereas, the passage of time will dilute the usefulness of this new information and will result in missed opportunities to improve the functioning of the Legislature; and
23 24 25 26	Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it
27 28 29	Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission To Research Effective Strategies and Efficiencies of Legislatures, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.
30 31	Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 16 members appointed as follows:
32 33 34	1. Four members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, 2 members from the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and 2 from the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

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- 2. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, 2 members from the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and 2 members from the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;
- 3. One member of the Legislature without a party affiliation appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 4. One member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State appointed by the Governor. The appointment of the member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State must be based on the unanimous joint recommendation of the tribal governments of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation to the Governor, except that, if the tribal governments do not make a unanimous joint recommendation within 20 days of the effective date of this resolve, the Governor shall appoint a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State and rotate the appointment among members of each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State;
 - 5. One member appointed by the Governor to represent the executive branch;
- 6. One member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to represent the judicial branch; and
- 7. Four members of the public, one appointed by the President of the Senate from the party holding the largest number of seats in the Senate, one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from the party holding the largest number of seats in the House of Representatives, one appointed by the President of the Senate from the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Senate based on the recommendation of the floor leader of that party and one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the House of Representatives based on the recommendation of the floor leader of that party.
- **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member and the first-named House of Representatives member shall serve as cochairs of the commission.
- **Sec. 4.** Appointments; convening of commission; number of meetings. 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 cochairs 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 cochairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business. Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission shall meet at least 10 times and shall allow for remote participation by residents of the State.
- **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall examine the operations of the Legislature including:
 - 1. The overall structure of the Legislature, including the number of Legislators;
- 2. The operation and role of the Legislative Council;

1 2	3. The process for allowing the introduction of bills and the number of bills in a legislative session and in a legislative biennium;
3	4. The structure of joint standing committees;
4	5. The budget process;
5	6. Transparency of the legislative process and physical access to the legislative spaces;
6 7	7. Technological efficiencies and remote access and participation, including a review of the process changes made in response to COVID-19;
8	8. Legislator term limits; and
9 10	9. The citizen nature of the Legislature, including the length of the legislative session and the legislative pay structure.
11 12	Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission.
13 14 15 16 17	Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission shall submit a report, no later than February 15, 2022, that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government. The committee may submit a bill based upon the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.
18 19	Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'
20 21	Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.
22	SUMMARY
23 24 25 26	This amendment replaces the resolve. It establishes the Commission To Research Effective Strategies and Efficiencies of Legislatures. The commission, made up of 16 members, must submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by February 15, 2022. The committee may submit a bill based on the report.
27	FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
28	(See attached)