



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1702

H.P. 1091

House of Representatives, April 18, 2023

**Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Improve the Educational
Experience of People Who Are Resettling in Maine**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and
Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, BRENNAN of Portland, CLOUTIER of Lewiston,
DHALAC of South Portland, RANA of Bangor, Senators: RAFFERTY of York, ROTUNDO
of Androscoggin.

1 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission to Improve
2 the Educational Experience of People Who Are Resettling in Maine, referred to in this
3 resolve as "the commission," is established.

4 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule
5 353, the commission consists of 16 members as follows:

6 1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including a
7 member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

8 2. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
9 House, including a member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats
10 in the Legislature;

11 3. Four members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

12 A. One member who is a teacher in a public school with a population of people who
13 have resettled in the State, such as asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants who has
14 direct experience providing services for those populations, selected from a list of
15 nominees provided by a statewide labor organization representing teachers in the State;

16 B. One member who serves as a liaison under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless
17 Assistance Act in a public school with a population of people who have resettled in the
18 State, such as asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants, selected from a list of
19 nominees provided by a statewide organization familiar with immigrant rights in the
20 State;

21 C. One member who serves as a social worker in a public school with a population of
22 people who have resettled in the State, such as asylum seekers, refugees and
23 immigrants who has direct experience providing services for those populations,
24 selected from a list of nominees provided by a statewide labor organization
25 representing teachers in the State; and

26 D. One member who is a student who has attended a public school in the State, selected
27 from a list of nominees provided by a community-based resettlement organization;

28 4. Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

29 A. One member who is familiar with general assistance programs under the Maine
30 Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 1161, selected from a list of nominees provided by
31 a statewide organization representing cities and towns in the State;

32 B. One member who has provided legal services in the State concerning immigration
33 laws;

34 C. One member with direct experience in housing services for new arrivals to the State,
35 selected from a list of nominees provided by a statewide organization familiar with
36 immigrant rights in the State; and

37 D. One member who is a parent of a student who attended a public school in the State,
38 selected from a list of nominees provided by a community-based resettlement
39 organization;

40 5. Three members appointed by the Governor as follows:

1 suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
2 and the joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report to the
3 Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.