



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2018

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Legislative Document

No. 1747

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S.P. 646

In Senate, December 22, 2017

### Resolve, To Establish a Task Force To Examine Agricultural Issues

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 19, 2017. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake and  
Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot,  
SAVIELLO of Franklin, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: FREDETTE of Newport,  
TUELL of East Machias.

1           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3           **Whereas,** this resolve establishes the Task Force To Examine Agricultural Issues to  
4 study barriers to economic prosperity in rural parts of the State and examine how  
5 innovation, infrastructure and technology may play a role in long-term, sustainable rural  
6 success; and

7           **Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that  
8 the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next  
9 legislative session; and

10          **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
11 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
12 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14          **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force To Examine  
15 Agricultural Issues, referred to in this resolve as "the task force," is established; and be it  
16 further

17          **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 13  
18 members appointed as follows:

19           1. Four members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including  
20 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature,  
21 a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry  
22 and a member of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government;

23           2. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the  
24 House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats  
25 in the Legislature, a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture,  
26 Conservation and Forestry and a member of the Joint Standing Committee on State and  
27 Local Government;

28           3. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry or the  
29 commissioner's designee;

30           4. The Director of the Bureau of General Services or the director's designee;

31           5. Two public members representing blueberry harvesters appointed by the Speaker  
32 of the House. The Speaker of the House shall consider any recommendations submitted  
33 within 20 days of the effective date of this resolve by the Wild Blueberry Commission of  
34 Maine regarding persons who have such expertise; and

35           6. One public member representing forest products landowners appointed by the  
36 President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall consider any recommendations  
37 submitted within 20 days of the effective date of this resolve by the Maine Forest  
38 Products Council regarding persons who have such expertise; and be it further

