LAW WITHOUT
GOVERNOR'S
SIGNATURE

MARCH 8, 2022

CHAPTER

126

RESOLVES

STATE OF MAINE

———

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

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H.P. 610 - L.D. 842

Resolve, To Create the Commission To Examine Reestablishing Parole

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission To Examine Reestablishing Parole, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 13 members as follows:

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

2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including at least one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

3. The Commissioner of Corrections or the commissioner's designee;

4. The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;

5. A district attorney, designated by an association representing prosecutors in the State;

6. A representative of an organization advocating for the interests of people who are incarcerated, appointed by the President of the Senate;

7. A member with experience in the fields of criminal sentencing or criminology or with experience in administering parole, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

8. A member who is an expert in criminal procedure, appointed by the President of the Senate;

9. A representative of an organization advocating for the interests of racial minorities, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

10. An active or retired judge or justice, designated by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

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

Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 120 days following the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 120 days or more after the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business.

Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall examine parole as it currently operates in this State and in other states, with a specific focus on the parole law in Colorado, the benefits and drawbacks of parole, different models of parole, how parole fits in with the overall framework of the Maine Criminal Code, the effect of parole on parolees, the costs and savings of instituting parole and the elements of a plan to implement parole.

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

Sec. 7. Consultants. Resolved: That the commission may request that individuals with specific expertise in parole and the logistics of parole systems, including but not limited to the current members of the Department of Corrections, State Parole Board, serve as consultants to the commission.

Sec. 8. Report. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than December 1, 2022, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters may report out legislation based on the recommendations of the commission to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.