

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

—
H.P. 1192 - L.D. 1603

**An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Committee To Study the
Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security; reestablished. The Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security, referred to in this section as "the committee," is established.

1. The committee consists of 11 members appointed as follows:
 - A. Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including a representative of each of the following joint standing committees:
 - (1) The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing;
 - (2) The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services; and
 - (3) The Joint Standing Committee on Taxation;
 - B. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including a representative of each of the following joint standing committees:
 - (1) The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing;
 - (2) The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services; and
 - (3) The Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business;
 - C. Two members of the public who represent low-income workers and recipients of public benefits, appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - D. One member of the public who represents business and industry, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
 - E. One member of the public who represents higher education, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and
 - F. One member of the public who represents a trade union, appointed by the Governor.

2. The first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the committee.

3. All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this section. 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 committee. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the committee to meet and conduct its business.

4. The committee shall examine and assess the feasibility, economic impact and poverty reduction effect of providing basic income security through a direct cash payment system and other programs that are designed to help individuals and families become more economically secure.

The committee shall consider what the State can do to further the goal of helping individuals and families to become more economically secure and to move state residents towards improved economic security. The committee shall make recommendations about what the Federal Government can do to help achieve this goal.

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

5. The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the committee, except that the Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

6. No later than December 1, 2021, the committee shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing is authorized to report out a bill related to the report.

7. The committee shall seek funding contributions to fully fund the costs of the study including the hiring of an outside consultant to conduct a feasibility study or to provide the committee with additional staffing needs, if funding permits. The committee is authorized to use the balances from the study authorized in Resolve 2019, chapter 82. All funding is subject to approval by the Legislative Council in accordance with its policies. If sufficient contributions to fund the study have not been received within 30 days after the effective date of this section, no meetings are authorized and no expenses of any kind may be incurred or reimbursed.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

LEGISLATURE

Study Commissions - Funding 0444

Initiative: Allocates funds received from contributions for the costs to the Legislature of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security, including the costs of hiring an outside consultant.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

2021-22

2022-23

Personal Services	\$1,320	\$0
All Other	\$23,680	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$25,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>