



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 794

S.P. 353

In Senate, February 21, 2023

**An Act to Expand the Membership of the Permanent Commission
on the Status of Women**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston and
Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, PIERCE of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York,
ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, JAUCH of
Topsham, O'NEIL of Saco, TERRY of Gorham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §7030**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 191, §1, is amended to read:

3 **§7030. Membership**

4 The commission consists of ~~17~~ 19 members, including ~~7~~ 9 appointed by the Governor,
5 5 appointed by the President of the Senate and 5 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
6 Representatives. In making these appointments, the Governor, the President of the Senate
7 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall consider and appoint residents of the
8 State who have a knowledge of problems facing women in the State, who have experience
9 in advocacy relating to women's issues and who provide leadership in programs or activities
10 that improve opportunities for women. The members of the commission must be chosen
11 from throughout the State, and the majority of members must be women. A member of the
12 Legislature may not be appointed to the commission. The Governor shall appoint ~~7~~ 8
13 members, each of whom represents one of the following interests: ~~minorities, the elderly,~~
14 Black people, indigenous people and people of color; older residents of the State; low-
15 income people; persons with disabilities; youth; persons working with victims survivors
16 of domestic violence and; federally recognized Indian nations, tribes and bands in the State;
17 and LGBTQIA+ persons. The Governor also shall appoint a member who is a person who
18 has not attained 25 years of age.

19 For purposes of this section, "LGBTQIA+" includes, but is not limited to, persons who
20 are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex or asexual.

21 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
22 allocations are made.

23 **SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF**

24 **Bureau of Administrative Services and Corporations 0692**

25 Initiative: Establishes one Public Service Coordinator I position within the Department of
26 the Secretary of State to serve as executive director of the Permanent Commission on the
27 Status of Women and provides funding for All Other costs.

| 28 GENERAL FUND | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 29 POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| 30 Personal Services | \$113,173 | \$119,343 |
| 31 All Other | \$86,827 | \$80,657 |
| 32 | | |
| 33 GENERAL FUND TOTAL | \$200,000 | \$200,000 |

34 **SUMMARY**

35 This bill increases the membership of the Permanent Commission on the Status of
36 Women from 17 members to 19 members and requires that the Governor appoint the 2
37 additional members, with one member representing the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual,
38 transgender, queer, questioning, intersex or asexual persons and one member a person who
39 has not attained 25 years of age. The bill also updates terminology describing other
40 appointees and provides funding for one Public Service Coordinator I position to serve as
41 executive director of the commission.