



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 1393

H.P. 967

House of Representatives, April 11, 2017

**Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Create a Statewide  
Economic Development Plan**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.  
Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: FECTION of Biddeford, GROHMAN of Biddeford, HERBIG of Belfast,  
MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland,  
ROSEN of Hancock.

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 Commission To Create a Statewide Economic  
4 Development Plan to study a number of economic development issues and create a  
5 strategic, regionally focused economic development plan; and

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

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

13           **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule  
14 353, the Commission To Create a Statewide Economic Development Plan, referred to in  
15 this resolve as "the commission," is established; and be it further

16           **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of  
17 20 members appointed as follows:

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

20           2. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the  
21 House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats  
22 in the Legislature;

23           3. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the chancellor's designee;

24           4. The President of the Maine Community College System or the president's  
25 designee;

26           5. An individual representing a private research institution appointed by the Speaker  
27 of the House;

28           6. An individual representing a private organization focused on promoting economic  
29 growth in the State appointed by the President of the Senate;

30           7. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the  
31 commissioner's designee;

32           8. The State Economist or the State Economist's designee;

33           9. The chair of the Maine Economic Growth Council or the chair's designee;

34           10. A representative of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce appointed by the  
35 President of the Senate;

1 11. A representative of a regional chamber of commerce appointed by the Speaker of  
2 the House;

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

4 13. Three members representing business or professional organizations, 2 of whom  
5 may be representatives of business or professional enterprises based outside of the State  
6 but that have or have had business interests in the State and that may include foreign  
7 nationals, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

8 14. Three members representing business or professional enterprises, each based in a  
9 separate region of the State, who may not be in the same industry, including at least one  
10 representing a business with fewer than 25 employees, appointed by the Speaker of the  
11 House; and be it further

12 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate  
13 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the  
14 commission; and be it further

15 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all  
16 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this  
17 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative  
18 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,  
19 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more  
20 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been  
21 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority  
22 for the commission to meet and conduct its business; and be it further

23 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall create a strategic, regionally  
24 focused economic development plan for the State, including:

25 1. An inventory and analysis of the State's competitive advantages and an inventory  
26 and analysis of factors that tend to retard economic development in the State;

27 2. Identification and analysis of state, national and international economic trends  
28 affecting the State's economic development;

29 3. Development of strategies for the promotion of business formation, expansion,  
30 recruitment and retention through aggressive marketing, international development and  
31 export assistance and any other strategies identified as advantageous that lead to more  
32 and better jobs and higher wages for all geographic regions and disadvantaged  
33 communities and populations of the State, including rural areas;

34 4. Development of policies and programs to further economic diversity in the State,  
35 its regions and their associated industries;

36 5. Stimulation of economic development and job creation in rural areas and smaller  
37 economic regions of the State, including strategies for rural marketing and the  
38 development of infrastructure, both physical and electronic, in rural areas;

