

proposed policy and any other information the Attorney General and the district attorneys believe is relevant. The Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

## **PART GGGG**

**Sec. GGGG-1. Commission established.** Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the Commission To Study the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund, referred to in this Part as "the commission," is established.

**Sec. GGGG-2. Commission membership.** The commission consists of the following members:

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. Four members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

- A. A commercial wood harvester;
- B. A state-licensed forester;
- C. A scientist who has studied forest health and management; and
- D. A representative of the tourism industry;

4. Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

- A. A representative of a conservation organization;
- B. An individual who represents outdoor recreation interests;
- C. A representative of commercial timber holdings in the State; and
- D. A representative of a sportsman's group;

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

6. The Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, or the director's designee.

**Sec. GGGG-3. Chairs.** 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. GGGG-4. Appointments; convening of commission.** All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Part. 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 within 45 days. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this Part 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. GGGG-5. Duties.** The commission shall meet a minimum of 4 times to review, study and analyze:

1. The proper use of the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1849 and its possible expansion to other uses;
2. The proper sustainable harvest levels on state land and how best to maintain those levels;
3. How best to manage public lands to preserve forests for recreation, wildlife habitat and public use while ensuring a healthy working forest;
4. After reviewing data and current science, how best to manage the State's public lands to deal with possible pest and disease issues;
5. Investments in public lands to increase access to public lands and spur rural economic development;
6. The impact of outdoor recreation on the State's tourism economy and the role public lands play in that economy; and
7. Any other issues the commission feels necessary to protect and manage public lands and the funds derived from those public lands.

**Sec. GGGG-6. Staff assistance.** The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission.

**Sec. GGGG-7. Report.** No later than December 5, 2015, the commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to date, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature related to the subject matter of the report.

## **PART HHHH**

**Sec. HHHH-1. Rename Land and Water Quality program.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Land and Water Quality program within the Department of Environmental Protection is renamed the Water Quality program.

**Sec. HHHH-2. Establish Land Resources program.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Land Resources program is established within the Department of Environmental Protection.