

## CHAPTER 15-A

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION OF STATEHOUSE AND BLAINE HOUSE

#### §321. Declaration of policy

The Legislature, in view of the continuing importance which the State House and the Blaine House have for the people of Maine, declares that it is the policy of the State to preserve and develop the aesthetic and historical integrity of the State House and the Blaine House. [PL 1989, c. 410, §17 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1979, c. 536, §1 (NEW). PL 1979, c. 663, §11 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 410, §17 (AMD).

#### §322. Blaine House Commission

The Blaine House Commission, as established in section 12004-I, subsection 75-B and referred to in this chapter as the "commission," consists of 9 voting members who are appointed and serve as described in this section. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**1. Members; appointment.** The commission consists of the following members:

A. The Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission; [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

B. The Director of the Maine State Museum; [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

C. The Director of the Bureau of General Services; [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

D. The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services; and [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

E. Five public members appointed by the Governor. The public members must have expertise in one or more of the following areas: historic preservation, interior decoration, historic architecture or landscape architecture. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Terms.** Each public member serves a term concurrent with the term of the Governor. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Chair.** The commission shall elect a chair from among its public members. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**4. Reimbursement.** Members serve on the commission without compensation. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**5. Meetings; decisions; quorum.** The commission shall meet at least quarterly on the call of the chair. Decisions must be made by a majority of those present and voting. A quorum is a majority of the members of the commission.

[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**6. Rules.** The commission, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, shall adopt all rules necessary or desirable for it to carry out the functions assigned it by this chapter.

[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).

#### §323. Approval of alterations; oversight of plans

The commission shall approve any architectural, aesthetic and decorative alterations to Blaine House grounds and public rooms and alterations to the structural features and architectural details of the private rooms and oversee plans to preserve and develop the aesthetic and historical integrity of the Blaine House and adjacent grounds. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**1. Oversight.** The commission shall oversee the preservation of, and the development and implementation of changes guaranteeing, the aesthetic and historical integrity of the public rooms of the Blaine House and adjacent grounds and alterations to the structural features and architectural details of the private rooms of the Blaine House.  
[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Jurisdiction.** The commission has jurisdiction over the entire exterior of the Blaine House, the interior rooms used by the public and the immediate grounds. The private office and living quarters used at the discretion of the Governor by the Governor and the Governor's family are exempt from this chapter, except for alterations to structural features and architectural details.  
[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Alterations.** The Bureau of General Services may not make any architectural, aesthetic or decorative addition to, deletion from or change to any external or internal part of the Blaine House or its immediate grounds under the jurisdiction of the commission unless the commission has approved the change in writing.  
[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

**4. Research; publications.** The commission may conduct research into the Blaine House, its grounds and its residents, to guide the commission in the preservation and development of the building's aesthetic and historical integrity. The commission may publish and distribute this research to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the Blaine House.  
[PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).

**§324. Advice and assistance to commission**

The commission may request the assistance and advice of any state agency in the administration of its duties. Any state agency receiving a request shall render any assistance and advice to the commission within reasonable means. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).

**§325. Annual report to Governor and Legislature**

The commission shall report to the Governor and the Legislature annually on September 1st its accomplishments and recommendations relating to the work and needs of the commission. The commission shall list all activities and projects initiated and completed during the past year and those projects proposed during the next year that concern the preservation and development of the aesthetic and historical integrity of the Blaine House and its adjacent grounds. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).

**§326. Contributions to Blaine House**

The commission may accept gifts, bequests, loans of artifacts and federal funds for purposes consistent with the objectives of this chapter. These gifts, bequests, loans of artifacts and federal funds must be used solely to carry out the purposes for which they were intended. Gifts may include

furnishings, other artifacts and any items or specimens appropriate for the grounds. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

All contributions, purchases and bequests of artifacts for the Blaine House and grounds must be reported in writing to the Maine State Museum Commission at least quarterly. The Maine State Museum Commission shall consider these acquisitions for inclusion in the Blaine House Historic Collection and report its decisions to the Blaine House Commission at least quarterly. For the purposes of this section, the "Blaine House Historic Collection" consists of all artifacts associated with the Blaine House and grounds that, in the judgment of the Maine State Museum Commission, are determined culturally or historically significant to the Blaine House, its inhabitants or the State. [PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 590, §1 (NEW).

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