CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

131ST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 77, L.D. 109, “An Act to Improve Safety for Individuals Living in Recovery Residences”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Measures to Improve Safety for Residents of Recovery Residences'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study Measures to Improve Safety for Residents of Recovery Residences, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 13 members as follows:

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

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

3. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;

4. The State Fire Marshal or the marshal's designee;

5. The following 4 members, appointed by the President of the Senate:
   A. Two members representing the interests of the recovery community;
   B. A member with expertise and experience in municipal code enforcement; and
   C. A member representing a statewide association of recovery residences; and

6. The following 3 members, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:
A. A member representing the interests of the recovery community;

B. A member with expertise and experience in building construction, including in the
construction of buildings used as recovery residences; and

C. A member who is a resident of a recovery residence.

Sec. 3. Chairs; quorum. Resolved: That the first-named Senate member is the
Senate chair of the commission and the first-named House of Representatives member is
the House chair of the commission. A quorum of the commission is 7 members and is
required to begin a meeting of the commission or to hold a vote.

Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved: That all
appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
resolve. 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. 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 commission to meet and conduct its business.

Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall review information on and
develop recommendations regarding measures designed to improve safety for residents of
recovery residences, including, but not limited to, the following matters:

1. Clarification of the regulatory framework with respect to life safety code and other
resident safety requirements under which recovery residences are required to comply,
including the requirements that may apply based on the type of building in which a recovery
residence is located, and development of recommendations regarding the life safety
standards and any other safety-related requirements that should apply to recovery
residences with consideration given to the type of building in which a recovery residence
is located;

2. Review of and development of recommendations regarding the scope and
requirements of the standards and certification requirements for recovery residences
provided by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences and the Maine Association of
Recovery Residences; and

3. Review of and development of recommendations regarding the evictions process
applicable to recovery residencies with consideration given to measures designed to protect
residents of such residencies during an eviction.

Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall provide
necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff support
is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 6, 2023, the commission
shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. After
reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation related to the report.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
number to read consecutively.
This amendment changes the bill to a resolve. It establishes the Commission to Study Measures to Improve Safety for Residents of Recovery Residences, which is directed to review information on and develop recommendations regarding measures designed to improve safety for residents of recovery residences. No later than December 6, 2023, the commission is required to submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation related to the report.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)