

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

Legislative Document

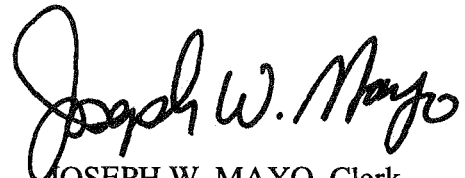
No. 2203

H.P. 1571

House of Representatives, February 9, 1998

An Act to Create the Maine Economic Opportunity Advisory Committee.

Reported by Representative VIGUE for the Task Force to Study Equal Economic Opportunity for all Regions of the State pursuant to Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 51. Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 218.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

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

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Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§6-E is enacted to read:

<u>6-E.</u>	<u>Maine</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>5 MRSA</u>
<u>Economic</u>	<u>Economic</u>	<u>and Leg-</u>	<u>§13090-K</u>
<u>Development</u>	<u>Opportunity</u>	<u>islative</u>	
	<u>Advisory</u>	<u>Per Diem for</u>	
	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Legislators</u>	
		<u>Only</u>	

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA c. 383, sub c. III, art. 5-C is enacted to read:

Article 5-C
MAINE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

§13090-K. Maine Economic Opportunity Advisory Committee

1. Appointment. The Maine Economic Opportunity Advisory Committee, referred to in this section as the "committee," established in section 12004-I, subsection 6-E, consists of the following 17 members:

A. Four Legislators, 2 appointed by the President of the Senate and 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

B. One member from a regional economic development agency located in eastern Maine, appointed by the President of the Senate;

C. One member from a regional economic development agency located in northern Maine, appointed by the President of the Senate;

D. One member from a regional economic development agency located in western Maine, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

E. One member from a regional economic development agency located in southern Maine, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

F. One member representing the general public who resides in northern Maine, appointed by the Governor;

G. One member representing the general public who resides in eastern Maine, appointed by the Governor;

2 H. One member representing the general public who resides
4 in western Maine, appointed by the Governor;

6 I. One member representing the general public who resides
8 in southern Maine, appointed by the Governor;

10 J. One member representing the Maine Municipal Association,
12 appointed by the Governor;

14 K. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
16 or the commissioner's designee, who serves as an ex officio
18 member;

20 L. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection or the
22 commissioner's designee, who serves as an ex officio member;

24 M. The Commissioner of Transportation or the commissioner's
26 designee, who serves as an ex officio member; and

28 N. The Director of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission
30 or the director's designee, who serves as an ex officio
32 member.

34 All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the
36 effective date of this article.

38 2. Terms. Except for ex officio members, committee members
40 serve for 2 years. Members continue serving until a successor is
42 duly appointed and qualified. When a vacancy occurs during a
44 member's term, the vacancy must be filled, by the appropriate
46 appointing authority, from the same category listed in subsection
48 1 as the member who vacated the committee.

50 3. Purpose. The committee shall advise the Legislature on
ways to improve economic development opportunities for all
regions of the State. The committee shall:

A. Monitor the differences in economic growth in various
regions of the State;

B. Develop strategies to overcome barriers to economic
growth in disadvantaged regions of the State; and

C. Submit a written or oral report of its findings and
recommendations by January 1st of each year to the joint
standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
over business and economic development matters.

4. Chair and officers. At the first meeting and annually

2 thereafter the committee shall choose one of its members to serve
3 as chair for a one-year term. The committee may select other
4 officers and as necessary designate the officers' duties.

5 5. Meetings. The committee shall meet at least twice
6 annually. One of the meetings must be held in an economically
7 disadvantaged area of the State. Meetings may be called by the
8 chair or the chair's designee. Meetings must be announced in
9 advance and open to the public, as required by Title 1, chapter
10 13, subchapter I.

11 6. Quorum. Nine members of the committee constitute a
12 quorum. Any action of the committee is not effective without the
13 concurrence of at least 9 members.

14 7. Compensation. Legislative members of the committee are
15 entitled to compensation as provided in section 12004-I,
16 subsection 6-E. All other members serve without compensation.

17 8. Staffing. The committee may request staff assistance
18 from the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis.

19 9. Repeal. This article is repealed on March 1, 2007.
20 Prior to that date, the committee shall make recommendations to
21 the Governor and the Legislature concerning the need to continue
22 the committee.

23 SUMMARY

24 This bill creates the Maine Economic Opportunity Advisory
25 Committee to continue the work of the Task Force to Study Equal
26 Economic Opportunity for All Regions of the State. The purpose
27 of the committee is to advise the Legislature on ways to improve
28 economic development opportunities for all regions of the State.