MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 2279

S.P. 869

Received by the Secretary, December 8, 1999

An Act to Amend the Charter of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 8, 1999. Referred to the Committee on Business and Economic Development and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2. Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KONTOS of Cumberland.

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

- Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1581, last ¶, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 420, \$1, is repealed.
- Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §13121, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 816, Pt. DD, §3, is repealed.
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 Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §13121, sub-§§7 and 8, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
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 410, Pt. E, §9, are repealed.
- Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §13122-B, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §11, is amended to read:

§13122-B. Purpose

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16 The foundation shall encourage, promote, stimulate, evaluate and support: research and development of relevance to the State; 18 technology transfer activities that increase the competitiveness of businesses and public institutions of higher education in the 20 State; effective and efficient application of technologies in the 22 public and private sectors; scientific and education and training; the development of new commercial 24 products and the fabrication of such products in the State; and cooperative efforts among government, the private sector and universities and colleges for the purposes outlined in this 26 chapter.

Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §13122-D, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. 30 E, §11, is amended to read:

§13122-D. Terms

- Directors of the board are appointed for 6-year 3-year terms. The initial appointments must be staggered as follows:

 one third of the directors must be appointed for 2-year terms; one third for 4-year terms; and 1/3 for 6-year terms. Board members may serve no more than 2 full consecutive terms. Public sector directors must serve terms coincident with the terms of their public sector appointments.
- Sec. 6. 5 MRSA §13123-A, sub-§12, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §13, is repealed.
- Sec. 7. 5 MRSA §13124, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, \$14, is repealed.
- Sec. 8. 5 MRSA §13124-B, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §16, is amended to read:

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The foundation is, the University of Maine System and the EPSCOR steering committee are jointly responsible for the administration of the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, referred to in this chapter as the "Maine EPSCOR Program," which is a partnership effort between the State Government and the Federal Government to strengthen the State's science and engineering infrastructure.

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- Sec. 9. 5 MRSA §13124-B, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §16, is amended to read:
- 2. Policy recommendation. Through the foundation, the University of Maine System and the EPSCoR steering committee, the
 Maine EPSCoR Program may recommend to the Governor and the Legislature policies and programs essential to the strengthening of the State's science and engineering infrastructure.
- Sec. 10. 5 MRSA §13124-C, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §16, is repealed.

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- Sec. 11. 5 MRSA §13126, as amended by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §17, is further amended to read:
- §13126. Powers and duties of president

The president shall implement the policies and procedures of the foundation and is responsible for the administration of its contracts programs. The president may enter into individuals or firms with the approval of the foundation for services necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of this The president shall--administer--the--centers--for chapter. innevation-program-and may develop, administer and evaluate other programs and initiatives as required by the foundation. president shall appoint and remove the staff of the office and prescribe their duties as may be necessary to implement the purposes of this chapter.

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SUMMARY

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This bill amends the charter of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation by terminating the SBIR technical assistance program and the Centers for Innovation. This bill also amends the foundation's sole duty to administer the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research by directing joint administration of the program with the University of Maine System and the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research steering committee.