

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 607

S.P. 216

In Senate, February 11, 2003

Resolve, To Study the Effects of NAFTA on Maine Businesses

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative CRAVEN of Lewiston and
Senators: BROMLEY of Cumberland, DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, GILMAN of
Cumberland, PENDLETON of Cumberland, STANLEY of Penobscot, Representatives:
CLARK of Millinocket, HOTHAM of Dixfield, MURPHY of Kennebunk.

2 **Sec. 1. Study effects of NAFTA. Resolved:** That the Department
of Economic and Community Development and the Executive
Department, State Planning Office shall jointly study the effects
4 of the North American Free Trade Agreement, or "NAFTA," on Maine
small businesses. The study must include, but is not limited to,
6 the positive and negative effects of NAFTA on imports and exports
in general with particular attention to:

8
1. Imports used in public and nonprofit construction
10 projects;

12 2. Metal products and steel fabrication industry;

14 3. Wood products; and

16 4. Manufactured housing and home building industries; and
be it further

18 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That on or before October 31, 2003,
20 the Department of Economic and Community Development and the
Executive Department, State Planning Office shall submit to the
22 Legislature a joint report summarizing the results of the study,
including, but not limited to, information on jobs created and
24 jobs lost in the State due to NAFTA and businesses created and
businesses closed in the State due to NAFTA; and be it further

26 **Sec. 3. Legislation. Resolved:** That on or before November 14,
28 2003 the Department of Economic and Community Development may
submit legislation resulting from the study to the Legislature
30 that would:

32 1. Expand business opportunities under NAFTA for Maine
businesses; and

34 2. Minimize adverse effects of NAFTA on Maine businesses.
36

38 **SUMMARY**

40 This resolve directs the Department of Economic and
Community Development and the Executive Department, State
42 Planning Office to study the positive and negative effects of the
North American Free Trade Agreement, with particular emphasis on
44 several important business sectors, and permits the Department of
Economic and Community Development to submit legislation for
46 consideration in the Second Regular Session of the 121st
Legislature to help expand business opportunities under and
48 minimize adverse effects of NAFTA.