

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

Legislative Document

No. 1880

H.P. 1320

House of Representatives, January 3, 2006

An Act To Promote Youth Involvement in County and Local Government

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 28, 2005. Referred to the Committee on State and Local Government pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CAIN of Orono.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, CUMMINGS of Portland,
McFADDEN of Dennysville, MUSE of Fryeburg, PINGREE of North Haven, Senators:
BARTLETT of Cumberland, BRYANT of Oxford, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.

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

4 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA c. 20 is enacted to read:

6 CHAPTER 20

8 COUNTY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

10 §471. Creation

12 There is established the County and Local Government
14 Internship Program, administered by the Margaret Chase Smith
16 Center for Public Policy within the University of Maine System
18 referred to in this chapter as "the program," for attracting and
20 placing qualified undergraduate and graduate college students
22 temporarily within county and local governments.

24 §472. Purposes

26 The purposes of this program are:

28 1. Selection. To attract and select college students with
30 ambition and talent for temporary internships within county and
32 local governments;

34 2. Placement. To place each program intern in a position of
36 some responsibility where the intern can contribute ideas,
38 enthusiasm and ingenuity while completing a project under the
40 direction of a responsible county or local administrator;

42 3. Liaison. To encourage liaisons between county and local
44 governments and the various institutions of higher learning
46 located within the State; and

48 4. Recommendations. To formulate recommendations for
50 improving the program and for attracting college graduates with
outstanding potential into permanent positions of employment
within county and local governments.

§473. Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the program, a student must:

1. College. Have completed at least 2 years of college or
have graduated from college within the past year; and

2. Residence. Be a state resident or attend a college in
the State.

§474. Duties of the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy

2 The program is administered by the Margaret Chase Smith
4 Center for Public Policy within the University of Maine System
 and is referred to in this chapter as "the center." The center's
 duties include the following.

6 1. General supervision. The center shall exercise general
8 supervision over the operation of the program and shall develop
 and put into effect administrative guidelines for interns and
10 county and local government personnel, formulate policies and
 establish and administer operational procedures.

12 2. Promotion; recruitment. The center shall disseminate
14 widely information and application forms and otherwise publicize
 the program to attract the attention and interest of as many
16 college students as possible and shall receive the completed
 application blanks of those students interested, as well as
18 answering inquiries for further details and information.

20 3. Participation of county and local governments. The
 center shall acquaint officials and administrators with the
22 program and its advantages, encouraging the greatest possible
 participation by county and local government offices.

24 4. Selection. Applications of interested students received
26 by the center must be processed in accordance with procedures to
 be established by the center.

28 5. Placement. The center shall place students with
30 participating county and local government offices.

32 6. Orientation. The center shall arrange an orientation for
 interns and supervising county and local personnel prior to
34 commencement of intern work within a county or local government
 office and may conduct special programs during the internship to
36 ensure that interns obtain a broad understanding of county and
 local governments.

38 7. Coordination. The center shall coordinate the activities
40 of the interns with the various participating county and local
 government offices to the maximum advantage of the program.

42 8. Annual report. The center shall produce an annual
44 report, which is a public document, by the end of each calendar
 year on the operation of the program. Copies of the report must
46 be filed with the Legislature.

48 §475. Conditions of employment

50 1. Temporary unclassified service. Interns are considered
 temporary, unclassified employees of the county and local

2 governments. The employing county or local government office may
3 discharge an intern for cause with one week's advance notice to
4 the intern and the center. The center may reassign an intern or
5 release the intern from the program with one week's advance
6 notice to the intern and the office when it is considered in the
7 best interest of the program.

8 **2. Salary.** The center shall determine from time to time an
9 appropriate minimum salary for interns, which must be paid by the
10 participating county and local government offices. The center
11 may negotiate the placement of an intern within county or local
12 government and, to further the purposes of the intern program,
13 may make funds from this chapter available to the intern.

14 **3. Internship training.** Participating county or local
15 government offices shall release intern personnel to participate
16 in paid orientation or training activities planned by the center
17 as part of the internship program.

20 **§476. Acceptance of gifts, bequests, grants, aid**

21 The center may accept gifts, bequests and endowments for
22 purposes consistent with the objectives of this chapter and may
23 accept federal, private foundation and other grants and matching
24 funds when determined to be in the best interests of the program.

25 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following
26 appropriations and allocations are made.

30 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM,
31 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

32 **Margaret Chase Smith Center for
33 Public Policy**

34 Initiative: Provides funds for administrative costs of marketing
35 the County and Local Government Internship Program, recruiting
36 students, processing applications, planning and training for
37 volunteers and interns and for general oversight of interns
38 during the summer.

42 GENERAL FUND	2005-06	2006-07
43 All Other	\$0	\$10,000
44	<hr/>	<hr/>
45 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$10,000

48 **SUMMARY**

50 This bill creates the County and Local Government Internship
Program, administered by the Margaret Chase Smith

2 Center for Public Policy at the University of Maine, which pairs
college-age students with county and local governments. Students
4 must have completed at least 2 years of college or have just
graduated from college and must be Maine residents or
out-of-state students attending college in the State.