

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

m
R/S

1
Date: 4-12-06

Reported by: Minority

(Filing No. S-598)

2
3 **Business, Research and Economic Development**

4 Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

5 **STATE OF MAINE**

6 **SENATE**

7 **122ND LEGISLATURE**

8 **SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

9 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 743, L.D. 1944, Bill, "An Act To
10 Implement Certain Recommendations of the Washington County Economic
11 Development Task Force"

12 Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting its
13 place the following:

14 'Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5250-I, sub-§7-A is enacted to read:

15 **7-A. Experiential tourism.** "Experiential tourism" means tourism that allows
16 individuals to be active participants in outdoor recreational activities including but not
17 limited to: hiking, camping, birding and other wildlife viewing, nature photography,
18 visits to historical and cultural sights and museums, nature tourism, adventure tourism
19 and ecotourism.

20 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §5250-J, sub-§1, ¶D,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 451, §1,
21 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

22 **D.** Washington County and the Downeast region including 2 pilot projects to be
23 established by the commissioner:

24 (1) A pilot project for the property of the former Cutler naval computer and
25 telecommunications station, which may be excluded from the qualified business
26 definitions established under section 5250-I, subsections 16 and 17 if a for-profit
27 business is engaged in, or will engage in, tourism development including
28 recreational tourism, experiential tourism, hotel development and resort facility
29 development; and

30 (2) A pilot project that allows seasonal employees in seasonal industries based
31 on natural resources to be considered qualified Pine Tree Development Zone
32 employees for the purposes of section 5250-I, subsection 18; and

33 **Sec. 3. Pilot projects in Washington County.** The Commissioner of Economic
34 and Community Development shall report by February 15, 2008 to the joint standing
35 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters and the joint

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 743, L.D. 1944

R. of S.

1 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and
2 economic development matters on the progress of the 2 pilot Pine Tree Development
3 Zone projects in Washington County, established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes,
4 Title 30-A, section 5250-J, subsection 1, paragraph D, including any proposed changes to
5 the pilot projects. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
6 over business, research and economic development matters may report out legislation on
7 the Washington County pilot projects to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd
8 Legislature.

9 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
10 allocations are made.

11 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

12 **Downeast Heritage Museum NEW**

13 Initiative: Provides funding for the operational support of the Downeast Heritage
14 Museum in Calais through the 2010-2011 biennium.

15

16 GENERAL FUND	2005-06	2006-07
17 All Other	\$0	\$300,000
18		
19 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$300,000</u>

20 **Incubator Without Walls NEW**

21 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for the Incubator Without Walls entrepreneurial
22 workshops in Washington County.

23

24 GENERAL FUND	2005-06	2006-07
25 All Other	\$0	\$100,000
26		
27 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>

28 **Office of Innovation 0995**

29 Initiative: Provides one-time funds to the Maine Technology Institute to supplement
30 existing research, development and technology grants that are targeted for Washington
31 County.

32

33 GENERAL FUND	2005-06	2006-07
34 All Other	\$0	\$1,000,000
35		
36 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

37 **Administration - Economic and Community Development 0069**

R.efs

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "b" to S.P. 743, L.D. 1944

1 Initiative: Provides \$500,000 in one-time funds to the endowment of the Sunrise County
2 Economic Council and an additional \$100,000 in one-time funds for the operations of the
3 council.

4			
5	GENERAL FUND	2005-06	2006-07
6	All Other	\$0	\$600,000
7			
8	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<hr/> \$0	<hr/> \$600,000

9	ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,		
10	DEPARTMENT OF		
11	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2005-06	2006-07
12			
13	GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$2,000,000
14			
15	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<hr/> \$0	<hr/> \$2,000,000

16 ,

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It allows the Commissioner
19 of Economic and Community Development to establish 2 pilot Pine Tree Development
20 Zone projects in Washington County that would allow seasonal employees in seasonal
21 industries based on natural resources in Washington County to be considered full-time
22 employees for the purposes of the Pine Tree Development Zone laws and would waive
23 the qualifying business requirements for the property of the former Cutler naval computer
24 and telecommunications station, if a for-profit business is engaged in, or will engage in,
25 tourism development including recreational tourism, experiential tourism, hotel
26 development and resort facility development. It also provides a definition for
27 "experiential tourism." This amendment also requires the Commissioner of Economic
28 and Community Development to report by February 15, 2008 to the joint standing
29 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters and the joint
30 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and
31 economic development matters on the progress of the 2 pilot projects, including any
32 proposed changes to the pilot projects. It authorizes the joint standing committee of the
33 Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and economic development
34 matters to report out legislation on the Washington County pilot projects to the Second
35 Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

36 This amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

37 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
38 **(See attached)**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1944

LR 2900(03)

An Act to Implement Certain Recommendations of the Washington County Economic Development Task Force

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "B"

Committee: Business, Research and Economic Development

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Minority Report

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Undetermined current biennium revenue decrease - General Fund

	2005-06	2006-07	Projections 2007-08	Projections 2008-09
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$400,000	\$400,000
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$400,000	\$400,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes General Fund appropriations totaling \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 to the Department of Economic and Community Development. Of this amount, \$300,000 is provided annually through the 2010-2011 biennium for the operational support of the Downeast Heritage Museum in Calais; \$100,000 per year is appropriated for the Incubator without Walls entrepreneurial workshops in Washington County; \$600,000 in one-time funds is provided for the Sunrise County Economic Council and \$1,000,000 in one-time funds is appropriated to the Maine Technology Institute to supplement existing research, development and technology grants that are targeted for Washington County.

This bill will result in a revenue loss beginning in fiscal year 2006-07 if the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development establishes the pilot projects authorized in this legislation. The amount will depend on the actual amount of Pine Tree Zone tax benefits received and can not be determined at this time.