

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 138

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H.P. 120

House of Representatives, January 17, 2019

### **An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine Coworking Development Fund**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford.  
Cosponsored by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec and  
Representatives: DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, FOLEY of Biddeford, RISEMAN of Harrison,  
STANLEY of Medway, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senator: CARSON of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Expansion of collaborative workspaces.** The Department of Economic  
3 and Community Development shall provide funds from the Maine Coworking  
4 Development Fund, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section  
5 13056-G, to entities that maintain collaborative workspace businesses to allow those  
6 entities to expand those collaborative workspace businesses. In providing funds pursuant  
7 to this section, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the department shall  
8 give preference to applicants with collaborative workspace businesses located in  
9 municipalities and counties in which the unemployment rate exceeds the State's  
10 unemployment rate.

11 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
12 allocations are made.

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

14 **Maine Coworking Development Fund Z195**

15 Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the expansion of existing collaborative workspace  
16 businesses, with preference given to applicants with projects in towns and counties in  
17 which the unemployment rate exceeds the State's unemployment rate.

18

19	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
20	All Other	\$300,000	\$0
21			
22	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill provides one-time funds for the expansion of existing collaborative  
25 workspace businesses and gives preference to applicants with projects in towns and  
26 counties in which the unemployment rate exceeds the State's unemployment rate.