

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 2092

S.P. 743

In Senate, February 4, 2020

Resolve, To Establish the Maine Spaceport Complex Leadership Council

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BELLOWS of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Representative HUBBELL of Bar Harbor and

Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, POULIOT of Kennebec, Representatives: BABINE of Scarborough, BICKFORD of Auburn, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, FECTEAU of Augusta, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, STEWART of Presque Isle.

1 **Sec. 1. Maine Spaceport Complex Leadership Council established.**

2 **Resolved:** That the Maine Spaceport Complex Leadership Council, referred to in this
3 resolve as "the council," is established as a public-private partnership to review the
4 feasibility of establishing a complex in this State that includes a Space Data and
5 Advanced Analytics Center of Excellence, a New Space Innovation Hub and Launch
6 Sites and services for increasing the State's participation in the global market for
7 emerging nanosatellite and aerospace technology.

8 For the purposes of this resolve, "Space Data and Advanced Analytics Center of
9 Excellence" means a state-of-the-art computer center with networks equipped to import
10 and downlink, store, cleanse, manage and analyze satellite data in concert with terrestrial
11 data for the purposes of solving business and public issues in innovative ways and
12 creating new data products and services.

13 For the purposes of this resolve, "New Space Innovation Hub and Launch Sites"
14 means a facility to support mission control for managing satellite flights from the point of
15 launch until the end of the satellite mission; a hub for new business incubation and
16 acceleration; a new space industry meeting place; a research and development center for
17 industrial, academic and scientific inquiry; a facility for satellite fabrication and
18 integration; and a learning center for children from kindergarten to grade 12.

19 **Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the council includes the following
20 individuals:

21 1. The following voting members:

22 A. Two members of the Senate, including a member from each of the 2 parties
23 holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature, appointed by the President of
24 the Senate;

25 B. Two members of the House of Representatives, including a member from each of
26 the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature, appointed by the
27 Speaker of the House;

28 C. Two members of the public appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

29 (1) A representative of an in-state manufacturing business with 25 or more
30 employees that is involved in the aerospace industry; and

31 (2) A representative of an in-state private foundation;

32 D. Two members of the public appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

33 (1) A representative of an in-state manufacturing business with fewer than 25
34 employees that is involved in the aerospace industry; and

35 (2) A representative of a college or university in the State with expertise in
36 aerospace; and

37 E. Two members of the public appointed by the Governor as follows:

38 (1) A representative of an entity directly funded by the National Space Grant
39 College and Fellowship Program; and

1 (2) A representative of an in-state nonprofit research organization that uses
2 satellite-based data.

3 In making appointments of members of the public, the appointing authorities shall make
4 every effort to appoint persons from generally recognized organizations representing the
5 entities mentioned in paragraphs C, D and E; and

6 2. The following individuals, or their designees, who serve as ex officio nonvoting
7 members:

8 A. The Director of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future;

9 B. The president of the Maine Technology Institute;

10 C. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System;

11 D. The President of the Maine Community College System;

12 E. The executive director of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority;

13 F. The executive director of the Loring Development Authority of Maine;

14 G. The Commissioner of Transportation; and

15 H. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development.

16 The first-named Senate member and the first-named House of Representatives
17 member are cochairs of the council. The council may appoint other officers as necessary.

18 **Sec. 3. Appointments; convening of council. Resolved:** That the appointing
19 authorities shall make appointments to the council within 30 days of the effective date of
20 this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the
21 Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointments of
22 all members, the cochairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the council. If 30
23 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments
24 have been made, the cochairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may
25 grant authority for the council to meet and conduct its business. A meeting of the council
26 under this section is subject to the availability of funding as described in section 7.

27 **Sec. 4. Strategic plan. Resolved:** That the council shall create a strategic plan
28 for a spaceport complex in the State that increases the State's participation in the global
29 market for emerging nanosatellite and aerospace technology and that must include at least
30 the following:

31 1. Clear goals and targets for the spaceport complex that align with the strategic
32 economic plan as described in Public Law 2019, chapter 343, Part RRRR, section 1
33 including but not limited to educational and research and development goals and
34 strategies;

35 2. A review of the State's current aerospace industry and a gap analysis;

36 3. Identification of a spaceport complex site that includes appropriate launch sites
37 that can secure United States Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation
38 Administration approval;

1 4. Short-term, medium-term and long-term strategies to achieve the goals of the
2 spaceport complex; and

3 5. Financial analyses, including of costs for construction and operation, and
4 identification of funding sources.

5 **Sec. 5. Costs. Resolved:** That, in considering potential costs for the spaceport
6 complex in accordance with the strategic plan under section 4, the council shall consider
7 costs related to the following:

8 1. The acquisition, construction, equipping, maintenance and operation of the
9 spaceport complex and related facilities;

10 2. All lands, properties, rights, easements and franchises acquired;

11 3. All machinery and equipment and finance charges, including interest prior to and
12 during construction and for one year after completion of construction; and

13 4. Engineering, architectural and fiscal agents; legal expenses; plans and
14 specifications; other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or
15 practicability of the spaceport complex; administrative expenses; and other such expenses
16 as may be necessary.

17 The council shall identify and secure commitments for funding for the spaceport
18 complex.

19 **Sec. 6. Compensation. Resolved:** That legislative members are entitled to
20 receive the legislative per diem and expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings
21 of the council. Other members are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary
22 expenses if they are not otherwise reimbursed by their employers or others whom they
23 represent.

24 **Sec. 7. Staff; funding. Resolved:** That the council shall contract with a Maine-
25 based entity directly funded by the National Space Grant College and Fellowship
26 Program for staff support and for securing outside funds for all staff support costs. The
27 contracted entity shall administer all funds on behalf of the council. The council may
28 seek funding to fully fund the costs of the council and to develop the strategic plan under
29 section 4. If sufficient funds have not been received within 60 days after the effective
30 date of this resolve, no meetings are authorized and no expenses of any kind may be
31 incurred or reimbursed.

32 **Sec. 8. Submission of strategic plan. Resolved:** That, no later than December
33 31, 2021, the council shall submit its strategic plan developed pursuant to section 4 to the
34 Governor and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
35 economic development matters. The council shall include with the strategic plan
36 information regarding any financial commitments from potential users and tenants of the
37 spaceport complex. The council shall make the strategic plan accessible to the public on
38 a publicly accessible website maintained by the Department of Economic and
39 Community Development.

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SUMMARY

This resolve establishes the Maine Spaceport Complex Leadership Council, a public-private partnership of private space flight commercial interests and local, state and federal government and academic entities, to lead the development and implementation of a spaceport complex in the State and to orchestrate engagement with external stakeholders and investors. The resolve requires the council to create a strategic plan and, by December 31, 2021, to present the plan to the Governor and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters.