

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 876

H.P. 562

House of Representatives, March 4, 2025

An Act to Support Rural Resilience and Emergency Response Through the Maine Service Fellows Program

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and
Representatives: DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, EATON of Deer Isle, MALON of
Biddeford, PLUECKER of Warren.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §7503, sub-§13-A**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 155, §2, is amended
3 to read:

4 **13-A. Maine Service Fellows Program.** Develop and administer the Maine Service
5 Fellows Program under section 7506; ~~and~~

6 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §7503, sub-§14**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 54, §1, is amended to
7 read:

8 **14. Annual report.** Submit an annual report to the Governor, the Legislature and the
9 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local
10 government matters by January 31st of each year; and

11 **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §7503, sub-§15** is enacted to read:

12 **15. Disaster response.** In conjunction with the Department of Defense, Veterans and
13 Emergency Management, compile a list of volunteers who are available at the request of
14 the Governor during states of emergency to provide emergency response and support
15 services in coordination with the Maine Emergency Management Agency. The list of
16 volunteers must include individuals who completed a term of service through an approved
17 national service position under the Corporation for National and Community Service
18 authorized under 42 United States Code, Section 12651 and veterans.

19 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
20 allocations are made.

21 **MAINE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

22 **Maine Service Fellows Program Z417**

23 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for 20 program fellows to participate in the Maine
24 Service Fellows Program.

25 GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
26 All Other	\$700,000	\$700,000
27		
28 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$700,000	\$700,000

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill provides ongoing funds for 20 program fellows to participate in the Maine
31 Service Fellows Program. The bill also directs the Maine Commission for Community
32 Service, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency
33 Management, to compile a list of volunteers who are available at the request of the
34 Governor during states of emergency to provide emergency response and support services
35 in coordination with the Maine Emergency Management Agency.