

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1433

H.P. 942

House of Representatives, April 3, 2025

**Resolve, to Establish a Working Waterfront Infrastructure  
Engineer Corps Pilot Program and to Conduct a Feasibility Study of  
a Higher Education Service Corps Program**

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Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, GERE of Kennebunkport,  
MCCABE of Lewiston, MURPHY of Scarborough, STOVER of Boothbay, Senators:  
BENNETT of Oxford, RAFFERTY of York.

1           **Sec. 1. Working Waterfront Infrastructure Engineer Corps Pilot Program**  
2 **established. Resolved:** That the Working Waterfront Infrastructure Engineer Corps  
3 Pilot Program, referred to in this resolve as "the program," is established. The Maine Sea  
4 Grant at the University of Maine shall oversee the program and consult with Volunteer  
5 Maine and the Maine College of Engineering and Computing at the University of Maine.  
6 The purpose of the program is to provide expertise in engineering, planning and permitting  
7 to restore and protect the State's working waterfront and other vulnerable infrastructure.

8           **Sec. 2. Length of program; number of program participants; program**  
9 **service activity and member development. Resolved:** That the program established  
10 under section 1 begins in the 2026-2027 academic year and lasts through the 2027-2028  
11 academic year. The program must include 5 students each academic year for a total of 10  
12 students for the duration of the program. Program participants may be undergraduate or  
13 graduate students. Program participants shall conduct vulnerability assessments and other  
14 analyses of the working waterfront and other essential working waterfront infrastructure  
15 threatened by extreme weather. Program participants shall complete projects that may be  
16 semester service-learning or summer term projects. Program participants shall engage with  
17 municipalities or other partners in the projects. Program participants must receive  
18 education about permitting requirements and funding opportunities to better understand  
19 how projects progress from proposal to implementation. Program participants must be  
20 exposed to careers in municipalities.

21           **Sec. 3. Maine Sea Grant at University of Maine to issue interim report;**  
22 **final report. Resolved:** That the Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine shall  
23 provide an interim report on the program by December 1, 2027 detailing the first year of  
24 the program to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
25 education matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction  
26 over state and local government matters. The Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine  
27 shall provide a final report by November 1, 2028 detailing the final year of the program to  
28 the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters  
29 and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local  
30 government matters. Each report submitted by the Maine Sea Grant at the University of  
31 Maine must include recommendations, including suggested legislation. Each joint standing  
32 committee may report out legislation related to the contents of each report in the session of  
33 the Legislature following submission of each report.

34           **Sec. 4. Maine Commission for Community Service to study feasibility of**  
35 **developing higher education service corps program. Resolved:** That the Maine  
36 Commission for Community Service, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5,  
37 section 7501, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and  
38 the Maine Maritime Academy shall collaborate to conduct a feasibility study to examine  
39 the expansion of existing service programs and the creation of a higher education service  
40 corps program that focuses on:

- 41           1. Coastal issues;
- 42           2. Transportation;
- 43           3. Energy;
- 44           4. Housing;

