

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 1FY 80/81
DATE August 11, 1980

ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS

WHEREAS, good physical health is a precious asset for each and every Maine citizen, and, therefore, is a precious asset for the entire State, and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to advise on the establishment and coordination of comprehensive physical fitness and sports programs does not currently exist with any agency in the State, and

WHEREAS, recreation and physical fitness are key elements for developing and maintaining an individual's good health and ability to lead a productive life, and

WHEREAS, with the rate of cardiovascular illnesses and other health problems increasing yearly among all Americans, the State can provide a service to its citizens by assisting in the dissemination of information regarding physical fitness and sports and the coordination of efforts to develop programs to assist the entire populous of Maine.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby create the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor from within the membership of the Council.

The Council's overall responsibility shall be to promote and coordinate activities relating to physical fitness and sports. Serving in an advisory capacity, the council shall advise and inform the Governor and Executive staff on any problems, changes, and recommendations pertaining to the area of physical fitness and sports.

Although not restricted to the following responsibilities, the Committee shall:

1. Recommend programs which will provide physical fitness opportunities for Maine people in all parts of the state and of every level of physical ability.
2. Work in alliance with state and municipal officials to encourage local government to develop and implement such programs.
3. Encourage employers, including the state, to consider specific actions that employees can take to enhance physical fitness activities on the job and during leisure time.
4. Work with the Bureau of Parks and Recreation to explore the utilization or development of facilities such as tennis courts, scenic off-road trails, or trails to be utilized for jogging, walking, skiing and biking.

5. Work in conjunction with State agencies to develop and coordinate programs with mental health, dental nutrition, and other professionals to promote sound personal health and fitness programs.
6. Work with the Department of Education to explore avenues to improve physical education programs within schools.
7. Advise the Governor on questions or issues relating to any other area of physical fitness and sports as the Governor may request or the Committee suggest.
8. Supplement and complement activities of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

The Council shall have an Executive Director to be selected by the Governor who will serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

Each member shall be chosen because of a demonstrated interest in physical fitness or sports.

Members shall be reimbursed for travel on the business of the Council.

Members shall be appointed by the Governor for a period of two years.



Joseph E. Brennan, Governor