

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Executive Order

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 5FY 83/84
DATE November 15, 1983

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, policy changes at the federal level and reductions in federal assistance have caused state and local governments to reassess their roles and relationships; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the State to convey Maine's positions on federal policy and programs to Congress, the President and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, it is important for state and local governments to work cooperatively to address common problems in a manner that is beneficial to the people of Maine; and

WHEREAS, the handling of the State's relations with Canada need to be brought closer to the Governor and more fully integrated into overall State policymaking; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Indian Land Claims Settlement of 1980 brought about a new relationship between the State and the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe, conferring on the Tribes the same status as that enjoyed by municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Blaine House Conference on State and Local Relations identified the need to formalize intergovernmental communications and to involve local officials in the planning of State programs affecting local governments and the initiation of governmental reform; and

WHEREAS, the Cabinet Committee on State and Local Relations recommended that an office be established as part of the Governor's Office to provide a forum to examine and discuss the intergovernmental system and to address and resolve those issues which affect two or more levels of government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, Governor of the State of Maine, order that an Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is established within the Governor's Office.

The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs will perform the following duties:

- manage relations between the Governor's Office and the federal government and Congressional delegation;
- maintain relations with various national groups such as the National Governors Association, regional groups such as the New England Governors Conference, and international groups such as the Canadian Provinces and Premiers;

- monitor and evaluate federal policies, proposals, and activities which directly affect state and local government;
- manage and improve relations with municipal, tribal, county, and regional governments;
- provide administrative staff support for the Governor's Municipal Advisory Council, and other such boards or commissions;
- coordinate program development and long-range planning generated by state agencies which directly affect local government;
- serve as advocate for local government problems relating to state agencies;
- maintain relations with the Bureau of Public Administration and other entities of the University of Maine to further the study of intergovernmental affairs and to find resolutions to environmental, economic, and social problems requiring intergovernmental cooperation.

The staff for the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs shall include the Federal-State Coordinator and a Special Assistant, the Washington Representative, the Canadian Representative, and a secretary.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the State Planning Office and the Department of Finance and Administration shall provide research and analysis as requested; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Executive Departments and Agencies shall cooperate with the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and shall assist by providing information, consultation, and staff resources within reasonable limits.



JOSEPH E. BRENNAN
Governor