

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
AGRICULTURE

EXECUTIVE ORDERS (BRENNAN)



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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 8FY 84/85
DATE March 21, 1985

AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the production and distribution of food and fiber from the nation's farms is essential to all of life; and

WHEREAS, the continuing health and strength of our agricultural enterprise is dependent on an awareness by all our citizens of the importance of agriculture and of the farmers' role in providing nutritious food as well as an appreciation for the responsibility of all to be good stewards of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Maine students need to be provided a greater awareness of the social and economic contribution of agriculture to human life; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing movement across the nation emphasizing agriculture in the classroom in order to provide future decision-makers with a better understanding of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education, through adoption of an Agricultural Education Position Paper, has endorsed the concept that the schools of Maine include agricultural education elements in the curriculum at all levels from kindergarten through high school; and

WHEREAS, the People of Maine traditionally have been exceptionally supportive of the farming industry of the State and its contribution to the economic development of Maine;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, GOVERNOR, do hereby establish a Maine Task Force on Agriculture in the Classroom.

A. Responsibilities.

Responsibilities of the Task Force shall be the following: ...

1. To determine the extent to which agricultural concepts are currently integrated into courses within the curricula of Maine classrooms at all levels; and
2. To recommend changes in Maine's school curricula and educational system necessary to increase the effectiveness of teaching students about the importance of agriculture to Maine and the nation.

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B. Name and Membership.

The name of the Task Force shall be the Maine Task Force on Agriculture in the Classroom and shall consist of 15 members.

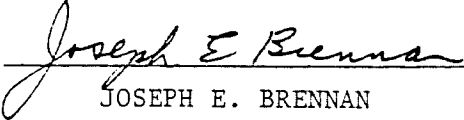
C. Resources and Authority.

The Task Force is authorized to cooperate with such other public and private agencies as are in accord with the purposes set forth above, including Agriculture in the Classroom programs of the United States Department of Agriculture and other states.

The Task Force is further authorized to receive and expend such public and private funds as may be made available to it, and within the limits of available resources, incur expenses and contract for services as necessary to carry out its purposes. State agencies are directed to cooperate with the Task Force in the performance of its duties, as may be deemed appropriate.

D. Report.

The Task Force shall submit a final report to the Governor no later than September 30, 1986, listing its activities and general developments pertaining to agriculture in the classroom, along with recommended programs.


JOSEPH E. BRENNAN
GOVERNOR