

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF  
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 9 FY 87/88  
DATE January 11, 1988

AN ORDER

ESTABLISHING THE MAINE ASPIRATIONS COMPACT:  
AN EDUCATION-BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

WHEREAS, higher aspirations of Maine students lead to appreciation of our rich cultural heritage and the attainment of a higher quality of life;

WHEREAS, Maine's business community has an important stake in the success of our public education system in preparing Maine students for continuing education and the workplace;

WHEREAS, higher aspirations, higher expectations and higher performance give Maine students a competitive edge in the world of work, in the pursuit of higher education, and in day-to-day living;

WHEREAS, the ability of Maine's public education system to foster academic achievement is an essential factor in sustaining the State's long-term economic health and prosperity;

WHEREAS, a close partnership among education, business and industry strengthens opportunities for Maine students and can make an important contribution to expanding the aspirations and motivation of Maine students;

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide advisory coordination, oversight and direction for the efforts to raise the aspirations of Maine students.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Maine Aspirations Compact: An Education-Business Partnership.

Purpose

The purpose of the Compact is to provide an organizational structure through which demonstration projects and statewide activities may be undertaken which will raise the personal aspirations and educational performance of Maine students.

Membership

The membership shall include a broadly based group of Maine citizens representing the business community, elementary and secondary education, industry, higher education, craftspeople, private education, and legislative representatives from all regions of the State. Membership shall be as follows:

Governor of the State of Maine, Honorary Chair  
Commissioner, DECS, Co-Chair  
Business/Industry Community Representative, Co-Chair

Members:

Legislative Members

Senate President  
Senate Minority Leader  
Speaker of the House  
House Minority Leader

Education Community (including)

2 Teachers  
1 Secondary Voc. Ed. Director  
1 Superintendent  
1 Principal  
1 State Board of Education Member  
1 President, School Boards Association  
1 Chancellor of the University of Maine System  
1 President of MICA  
1 Director of the VTI System  
1 Commissioner of DECS (Co-Chair)  
other education-related professionals as deemed necessary

Business/Industry Community (no more than 18 Members, one to be designated Co-Chair)

16 Representatives of the Business/Industry Community including the President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the President, Maine Development Foundation; and a representative of a minority population.

In addition, the Governor will name Cabinet-level officers and legislative committee members as non-voting advisors to serve as resource people to the Compact.

Function and Duties

1. Prepare a comprehensive State Aspirations Plan by the end of the first year, which includes:

a. an analysis of major educational, societal, cultural and economic issues which support raising aspirations;

b. activities and timelines for carrying out the Compact's remaining functions and duties.

2. Act as a clearinghouse for national initiatives and organizations;
3. Undertake activities which will heighten the public awareness of the importance of the issue and provide legitimacy to efforts designed to keep aspirations in the public's mind;
4. Establish local aspirations compacts to increase collaboration among schools, business, industry and institutions of higher education;
6. Sponsor certain public events in promotion of the Compact and showcase all examples of collaborative efforts;
7. Establish a non-profit Aspirations Foundation to foster the initiatives of the Compact;
8. Identify and carry forward issues appropriate for legislative and administrative action;
9. Submit periodic public reports on the activities and results sponsored and recommended by the Aspirations Compact.
10. Maintain active liaison with Cabinet-level subgroups and appropriate legislative committees.

#### Administration

The Department of Educational and Cultural Services will ensure staff support to the Compact, and will work in collaboration with the Maine Development Foundation to the maximum extent possible.

#### Officers

The Honorary Chair will be the Governor. Co-Chairs will be the Commissioner of DECS and a Business/Industry Community Representative.

#### Powers

Between regular meetings the business of the Aspirations Compact will be conducted by the Executive Committee which will consist of, by virtue of their appointment to the Compact, the Co-Chairs, two additional educators, and two additional business representatives (total of six members).

#### Compensation

Members of the Compact shall serve without compensation. All necessary expenditures incurred by members while in the performance of their Compact duties the Council which are allowed by State law shall be borne by their

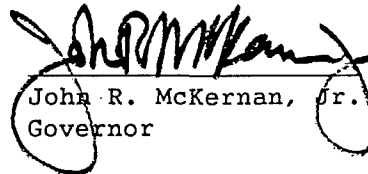
Executive Order 9 FY 87/88

January 11, 1988

Page 4

parent organizations. Expenses of members representing organizations which do not reimburse such expenses will be borne by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services.

The effective date of this Order is January 11, 1988.



John R. McKernan, Jr.  
Governor