

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 2 FY 90/91
DATE July 23, 1990

AN ORDER ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON
DEFENSE REALIGNMENT AND THE MAINE ECONOMY

WHEREAS, recent reductions in superpower tensions will inevitably result in a realignment of U.S. national security priorities and associated federal spending decisions; and

WHEREAS, defense-related activities in Maine support a significant portion of the economic activity in the State; and

WHEREAS, reductions in defense spending may have important impacts on Maine communities and Maine-based defense contractors, their suppliers and workers; and

WHEREAS, a forward-looking strategy to respond to reduced defense spending in Maine may allow Maine workers, businesses and communities to buffer their economic consequences;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Task Force on Defense Realignment and the Maine Economy.

Purpose

The purpose of this Task Force shall be to determine the likely effects upon Maine businesses, workers and communities of changes in future federal Defense spending, assess the ability of workers, businesses and State and local governments to adjust to those changes, and recommend a strategy for private and public sector decision-makers in Maine to strengthen their capacity to cope with the potential dislocations associated with reduced defense spending in Maine.

Functions and Duties

The Task Force shall include in its consideration, but shall not be limited to, the following topics:

1. the contribution of the current level of defense spending to the Maine economy;
2. the effect of likely changes in defense spending on the Maine economy in general, and Maine businesses, workers and communities, in particular;

3. the implications of efforts in neighboring states to convert military installations to private uses;
4. current efforts of Maine businesses to reduce their dependency on defense-related contracts;
5. emerging and future opportunities for alternative commerce and employment opportunities for defense-related Maine businesses and workers;
6. the capacity of existing public and private mechanisms to respond to the economic dislocations associated with future defense spending reductions; and,
7. the most desirable and practical methods to minimize the negative impact of changes in defense spending on Maine workers, businesses, and communities.

Administration

The Director of State Planning Office shall serve as Chair of the Task Force. The State Planning Office shall provide staff support to the Task Force and shall receive the assistance of participating State agencies as needed. The Task Force shall prepare a report of its findings and recommendations on or before February 1, 1991.

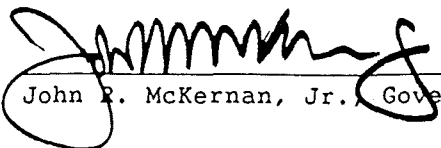
Membership

The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

Director of the State Planning Office; Commissioner of Economic and Community Development; Commissioner of Labor; President of the Maine Vocational Technical College System; Commissioner of Defense and Veterans' Services; Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation; Michael Aube, Eastern Maine Development Corporation (Bangor); William Ryan, Peoples Heritage Bank (Portland); Maurice Subilia, Fiber Materials (Biddeford); Thomas Baum, Pratt and Whitney (No. Berwick); Representative Susan Pines (Limestone); Senator Pamela Cahill (Woolwich); Representative Orland McPherson (Eliot); Michael Kiernan, Bath City Council (Bath); Mark Kearns, Attorney (Wells); William Haggett, Bath Iron Works (Bath); Jack Dexter, Maine Chamber of Commerce (Augusta); G. Melvin Hovey, Maine Public Service (Presque Isle); Sandy Blitz, U.S. Economic Development Administration (Augusta); P. Andrews Nixon, Dead River Company (Portland); Kathy Leonard, Auburn Manufacturing (Mechanic Falls); Jack Daigle, Casco Northern Bank (Portland); Bruce Makas, Saco Defense, Inc. (Saco); Richard Morrill, Brunswick Coal & Lumber (Brunswick); Charles O'Leary, Maine AFL-CIO (Brewer); James Mackie, Bath Iron Works (Portland); and Katherine Greenleaf, Hannaford Bros. (Scarborough).

At the discretion of the Governor, the Task Force membership may be expanded at a later time.

The effective date of this Order is July 23, 1990.


John R. McKernan, Jr. Governor