

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 7 FY 90-91
DATE October 3, 1990

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION TO REVIEW THE CAPACITY
OF THE MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

WHEREAS, technological growth in the State's manufacturing industries and unprecedented growth in our service industries have resulted in a critical demand for technically-skilled workers in Maine; and

WHEREAS, the education and training of our workforce has not kept pace with technological innovation and the demand for workers with the technical skills to operate and use new equipment and applications; and

WHEREAS, some Maine companies are looking outside the State to fill Maine jobs because of the lack of technically-skilled workers; and

WHEREAS, in this decade and beyond, Maine's ability to compete and grow, and to satisfy the needs and aspirations of our citizens will depend in large measure on the capacity of our postsecondary educational institutions; and

WHEREAS, the six campuses of the Maine Technical College System are the primary deliverers of one- and two-year postsecondary technical education in the State; and

WHEREAS, in the past, numerous reviews and studies conducted in Maine on our educational systems have focused primarily on our public secondary schools and the University of Maine System; and

WHEREAS, the complex changes facing the State's businesses and workforce in the coming decade warrant a serious look at the capacity of the Maine Technical College System and its role in the education community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR., Governor, do hereby establish the Commission to Review the Capacity of the Maine Technical College System.

Purpose:

1. Analyze Maine's public and private sector human resource needs, with a focus on the supply of and demand for technically-skilled workers, through the 1990s.

2. Analyze the capacity of the Technical Colleges to meet the demand for technically-skilled workers by Maine businesses and citizens.
3. Develop a report analyzing the demand for and supply of technical workers, including any recommendations for the Technical Colleges to expand to help meet the State's needs. The report will address, as appropriate, facility use, equipment, financing, and personnel considerations.

Membership:

The Commission to Review the Capacity of the Maine Technical College System shall consist of fourteen members representing business, education and labor. To the extent possible, Commission members shall represent all regions of the State.

Scope of Work:

In particular, the Commission shall address urgent questions of accessibility to the Technical Colleges, conduct meetings and studies as necessary to develop findings; and make appropriate recommendations to deliver needed educational services to Maine people by the most effective means available.


Resources and Authority:

All expenses incurred by members in the performance of their Commission duties shall be borne by their parent organizations. All agencies of State government shall make resources and information available to the Commission upon request.

Report and Recommendations:

The Commission shall make its final report and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Education on or before April 15, 1991.

The effective date of this Order is October 3, 1990.



John R. McKernan, Jr., Governor