

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 8FY 90-91
DATE October 19, 1990

AN ORDER
ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION ON SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

WHEREAS, science, mathematics and technology are important factors in the strategy to assure that Maine businesses and Maine workers can compete in a global economy;

WHEREAS, science, mathematics and technology are vital keys to enhanced quality of life for all Maine people;

WHEREAS, a scientifically literate workforce is essential to the survival of Maine educational institutions, businesses, industries, and not-for-profit research institutions;

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and Governors have set as a national goal that our school children will be first in the world in science and mathematics by the Year 2000;

WHEREAS, there is a need to reaffirm that literacy in science, mathematics, and technology is an essential educational goal for Maine residents;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Maine's Common Core of Learning has created a vision that states outcomes and results of science, mathematics, and technology education for all high school graduates;

WHEREAS, there is a need to develop an action plan consistent with the vision of the Commission of Maine Common Core of Learning to increase scientific literacy of Maine residents; and

WHEREAS, the State can coordinate these interests by initiating a statewide dialogue among these constituencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. McKernan, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Commission on Scientific Literacy.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership shall include a broadly based group of Maine citizens representing educators, parents, business and industry, government, and the news media.

Co-Chairs:

Business Community
Education Community

Ex-Officio:

Chairperson, Maine Science and Technology Commission
Commissioner, Department of Education
Chancellor, University of Maine System
President, Technical College System

Members (to include one or more of the following):

public higher education representative
private higher education representative
government representative
state board of education member
not-for-profit research institution representative
business representative
industry representative
Maine Aspiration Foundation member
healthcare professional
secondary school teacher
elementary school teacher
middle school teacher
vocational education teacher
secondary school principal
elementary school principal
middle school principal
school board member
parent representative
legislative representative
labor representative
student representative
superintendent of schools
media representative
citizen at large

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Governor shall appoint members who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

GOAL OF COMMISSION

To develop an action plan for increasing the scientific literacy of Maine residents within the framework suggested by "Maine's Common Core of Learning."

OBJECTIVES

The action plan will address the following objectives:

- (a) Increase the number of scientifically literate educators;
- (b) Increase access to and the availability of resources required for teaching science; mathematics and technology in K-12 and beyond;

- (c) Increase the number of scientifically and technologically trained students graduating from Maine's public and private colleges;
- (d) Increase the number of graduating high school students interested in science, mathematics, and engineering careers.
- (e) Increase scientific literacy of the general population.
- (f) Upgrade science, mathematics, and technology skill levels of current workers.
- (g) Enlist support from Maine's science and technology community in the promotion of scientific literacy.

EXPECTED PRODUCTS

1. An action plan outlining the findings and recommendations reflective of the goal statement and objectives stated above will be developed by September, 1991. The plan will also stress human and material resource needs.

The plan will describe ideas for pre-college and college programs, activities, curricula, and teacher pre-service and in-service development consistent with a vision describing where Maine residents should be with regard to scientific literacy in the 21st Century. The plan will stress human and material resource needs.

2. An implementation strategy and schedule for instituting changes at all levels of participation.
3. An evaluation strategy for measuring the effectiveness of the implemented policies, activities and programs for increasing scientific literacy.
4. A communication strategy to disseminate the plan statewide and to assist schools, businesses, and postsecondary institutions in the development and implementation of selected components of the action plan.

STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION

1. The Commission will develop the components of the action plan with the assistance of study groups.
2. The Chair of each study group will be a Commission member.
3. The Commission will determine the working relationship with each study group.
4. A Steering Committee comprised of representatives from the Maine Science and Technology Commission, the Department of Education, the University of Maine System, and the Technical College System, will serve as the administrative body for the Commission.
5. The Maine Science and Technology Commission will have fiscal responsibility for the conduct of the Commission's work.
6. Each study group and the Steering Committee will be assigned a staff person to assist in the conduct of each's work.

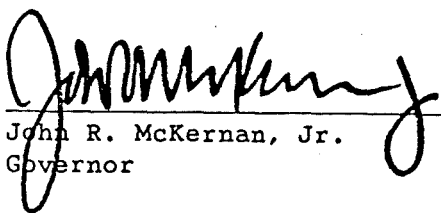
MEETINGS

The Commission, shall, upon at least seven days notice, meet upon the call of the chair.

COMPENSATION

Members of the Commission and study groups will serve without compensation. All legally allowed expenditures incurred while in the performance of their commission and study group duties will be borne by their parent organization. Expenses of members representing organizations that do not reimburse such expenses will be borne by the Maine Science and Technology Commission.

The effective date of this Order is October 19, 1990.



John R. McKernan, Jr.
Governor