



EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHMENT OF SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF MAINE AND AOMORI PREFECTURE, JAPAN

WHEREAS, the State of Maine has an interest in establishing ties with various foreign governments and other entities on behalf of its citizens;

WHEREAS, such relationships can contribute to the education, enrichment, and economic development of Maine, helping the State's citizens to understand foreign societies and cultures;

WHEREAS, support for a relationship with the Aomori Prefecture, Japan, exists and has been demonstrated by the endorsements of private citizens, businesses, and cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS, an official delegation made up of representatives of the Executive and Legislative Branches have signed a sister-state agreement with the Aomori Prefecture on behalf of the State of Maine;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. McKernan, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby:

- Establish a Sister-State Aomori Work Group to coordinate the State of Maine's participation in this relationship, chaired by the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development,
- 2. Membership will include the Commissioners of Agriculture, Marine Resources, Education, and Conservation. The Chair shall also invite to participate other individuals as deemed appropriate, including representatives of business, education, science, and culture.

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- 3. The group's mission will be to plan and execute activities under the sister-state agreement in coordination with the Government of Aomori Prefecture. These activities should be designed to increase cultural understanding and appreciation, establish commercial relationships, increase scientific and technological exchange, and otherwise serve as a source of education and enrichment.
- 4. The Department of Economic and Community Development will conduct official communications with the Aomori Prefectural Government.

The effective date of this Executive Order is June 29, 1994.

McKernan. lor