

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. FY 01 00/01
DATE August 22, 2001

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE MAINE-AOMORI
SISTER STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, Maine and the Prefecture of Aomori, Japan, established as a sister state relationship in May of 1994 to facilitate educational, cultural and business exchanges between the two states;

WHEREAS, the State of Maine highly values the sister state relationship with the Prefecture of Aomori, Japan;

WHEREAS, enhanced coordination within state government and greater citizen involvement in sharing information, planning and implementing joint ventures would enhance the sister state program;

WHEREAS, good will and enthusiasm has been engendered by both public and private exchanges and partnerships,

WHEREAS, the coordination of state-to-state relationships is the responsibility of the Executive Department; and

WHEREAS, an ongoing plan to sustain a coordinated effort is needed to nurture the Maine-Aomori Sister State relationship;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Angus S. King, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby establish the Maine-Aomori Sister State Advisory Council ("Advisory Council").

Purpose

The Advisory Council is established to foster and promote a cooperative relationship between the sister states of Maine and Aomori so as to benefit citizens in both states.

Functions and Duties of the Advisory Council

The Advisory Council shall:

1. Advise the Executive Department and report to the Governor and the Legislature on the status and scope of the Maine-Aomori Sister State relationship.
2. Assess existing activities and exchanges with Aomori, identify successful programs and activities, and act on promising cultural, educational and other collaborative opportunities;
3. Identify and secure sources of support for Maine-Aomori exchanges, programs, projects and administrative support of the Advisory Council. Implementation of these activities shall be the responsibility of participating state departments and agencies, municipalities, school districts, and private non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Membership

The Advisory Council shall consist of fifteen (15) members to be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor as follows.

The following members shall be appointed initially on a staggered annual basis and will be eligible to serve two three-year terms.

- 1 representative of the Maine State Museum Commission
- 1 representative of the Maine Arts Commission
- 1 representative of the Maine Humanities Council
- 2 representatives of the Japan America Society of Maine
- 2 representatives from school districts with exchange relationships in Aomori
- 1 representative from a Maine municipality with a sister city relationship in Aomori
- 2 representatives of other Maine/sister state relationships
- 1 member at large

The following shall participate, by virtue of their position, on an ongoing basis.

- 1 representative from the University of Maine System
- 1 representative from a private Maine college or university

Officers

Members shall elect a chair, and may, if they deem necessary, elect other officers. The chair and any other officers elected may serve up to three consecutive one-year terms as officers.

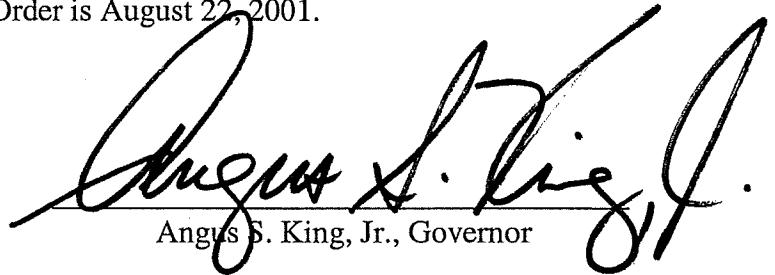
Meetings

The Advisory Council shall meet at least three times a year at times and locations determined by the chair. The chair may form subcommittees and take other administrative action necessary or appropriate to carry out the work of the Advisory Council.

Official Contact

The Director of the Maine International Trade Center (MITC) shall serve as the official Maine contact for the Maine Sister State Program. MITC will work in partnership with the Department of Economic and Community Development, the State Planning Office, and the Department of Marine Resources.

The effective date of this Executive Order is August 22, 2001.



Angus S. King, Jr., Governor