

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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O N E - H U N D R E D T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 887

S. P. 286

In Senate, January 26, 1961.

Referred to Committee on Industrial and Recreational Development. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Brooks of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE

RESOLVE, Providing for Survey to Determine New Projects for Recreational Areas.

Survey to determine new projects; provided for. Resolved: That the Department of Economic Development, in cooperation with the Maine Publicity Bureau and its member resort owners, is authorized and directed to make a continuing survey of the general services in all regions of Maine to determine what type of new enterprises would strengthen the recreational regions of Maine.

The Department of Economic Development shall then correlate, evaluate and publish the results of its survey annually and make it available to all interested parties.

Through proper and selected channels the Department of Economic Development shall advertise all small business opportunities that the survey shows exist.

In areas where inadequate financing exists, the Department of Economic Development shall arrange necessary financing for those projects which appear to have reasonable chance of success; and be it further

Resolved: That there be appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$15,000 to carry out the provisions of this resolve and such appropriation shall not lapse but shall be a continuing carrying account until the purposes of this resolve are accomplished.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

One of the bulwarks of the economy of the State of Maine is our tourist industry. This business brings much revenue to our citizens, our town governments and our State Government, without it many of our towns would cease to exist and thousands of our citizens would be forced to leave the State seeking employment.

This segment of our economy has few economic giants and primarily consists of one man operations that exist only through the ingenuity and hard work of the operators—most of whom went into business with inadequate information and inadequate financing. The effects of these 2 great deficiencies can be seen both in our bankruptcy courts and in our sometimes mutilated countryside. It is the feeling that if we, as a State, are to receive the full benefits of the natural beauties of our lakes, streams, mountains and seashore, we, as a State, must offer some direction and assistance to this headless entity commonly called our “tourist industry.”