

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1336

S. P. 484

In Senate, February 13, 1963

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Noyes of Franklin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-THREE

AN ACT Transferring Division of Research and Planning of Department of Economic Development to the University of Maine.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 41, § 135-A, additional. Chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 135-A, to read as follows:

‘Department of Research and Planning.

Sec. 135-A. Department of Research and Planning. The Department of Research and Planning, under the supervision and control of the trustees of the University of Maine, shall be empowered to:

I. Information concerning economic considerations. Compile and maintain information useful to the development of all industries of the State concerning resources, sites, space, equipment, adequate housing, contracts, materials, transportation, markets, labor supply, population trends and other economic considerations.

II. Studies: Industry and economy. Study specific problems peculiar to the industry and economy of Maine with a view towards the broader utilization of our natural resources and the development of new and improved industrial products and techniques, which studies shall be advanced by coordination of research with existing private and governmental agencies and education institutions, and may be advanced by contractual relations with persons or organizations familiar with the problems and equipped to conduct the needed research.

III. Studies: Agriculture and Sea and Shore Fisheries. Study specific problems relating to agriculture and sea and shore fisheries, cooperating with the Departments of Agriculture and Sea and Shore Fisheries and other existing governmental and private agencies in the development of new products and techniques which will tend to improve the economic condition of those engaged in these 2 endeavors.

IV. Reports. Assist in the preparation of reports upon request from the Governor or any State department.

V. Data on types of industry. Prepare evidence and supporting data on types of industry on which special efforts should be made to locate them in Maine, with special attention to the possibilities in the fields of electronics, nuclear energy, plastics, and other industries based on recent technological developments.

VI. Master plan. Prepare and from time to time revise and perfect a master plan for the physical development of the State. Such master plan, with any accompanying maps, plats, charts and descriptive matter, shall be designed with the general purpose of guiding and carrying forward such coordinated, effective and economic development of the State, with due respect to its topography, resources and its present needs and future possibilities, as will best promote the health, safety, order, convenience, welfare and prosperity of the people. Among other things such master plan shall tend to bring into suitable relation the use of land, soil, water and natural resources; the location and distribution of population and habitation; agriculture and forestry; recreational resources, facilities and opportunities; fishing and mining; trade and industry; ports, highways, railways, airways and every form of transportation, travel and communication; public institutions of every description, whether publicly or privately supported; water supply and disposal of sewage; and all such other developments and uses as will tend to avoid waste of the human, financial and physical resources of the State and to promote the above purposes.

VII. Coordinating agency. Act as the coordinating agency between the several officers, boards, commissions, departments and divisions of the State in matters relative to the physical development of the State, including the Maine Port Authority and Maine Aeronautics Commission, and review the proposals of said agencies in the light of their relationship to the master plan and incorporate the results of such reviews in the reports of the department. Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the powers and duties of any officer, board, commission, department or division of the State.

VIII. Assistance and advice. Assist in planning and executing any public or private project involving federal grants or loans; advise, confer and otherwise cooperate with municipal planning boards, agencies, officials, civic and other groups and citizens in matters relating to urban renewal, zoning, and planning relating to schools, housing, health, land use controls, assessment and taxation, and other objectives; initiate, encourage and assist local planning boards and other municipal agencies and officials in regional planning and urban renewal.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 38-A, § 2, amended. The first sentence of the 3rd paragraph of section 2 of chapter 38-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 471 of the public laws of 1955 and as amended by section 3 of chapter 123 of the public laws of 1957, is further amended to read as follows:

'The commissioner shall organize a ~~Division of Research and Planning~~, a Division of Industrial Development, a Division of Recreational Promotion, a Division of Publicity and Public Relations and a Division of Geological Survey and such other divisions as the commissioner may recommend and as may be approved by the Governor and Council.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 38-A, § 4, repealed. Section 4 of chapter 38-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 471 of the public laws of 1955 and as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 38-A, § 6, sub-§ III, amended. Subsection III of section 6 of chapter 38-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 471 of the public laws of 1955, is amended to read as follows:

'**III. Date; cooperation.** Utilize the data prepared and gathered by the ~~Divisions~~ Department of Research and Planning, and **Division of Development**, and cooperate with these 2 ~~divisions~~ agencies in the advancement of the general well-being of the State.'

Sec. 5. Legislative intent. It is the intent of the Legislature that the powers and duties of the Division of Research and Planning of the Department of Economic Development are hereby transferred to, and shall hereafter be exercised and performed by the Department of Research and Planning, under the supervision and control of the trustees of the University of Maine. The Department of Economic Development shall transfer to the Department of Research and Planning all property, records and other data now in the custody of the division. With respect to the year end closing at June 30, 1964, all incumbered balances of the Division of Research and Planning and all appropriations to the division made by the Legislature shall be credited to the department.