

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 277

S .P. 94

In Senate, January 22, 1969

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

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Minkowsky of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT Establishing the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

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

R. S., T. 26, c. 7, sub-c. IV-A, additional. Chapter 7 of Title 26 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new subchapter IV-A, to read as follows :

SUBCHAPTER IV-A

EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED

§ 791. Legal identity

There is established a permanent committee to be known as the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped for the purpose of carrying on a continuing program to promote the employment of Maine citizens with physical or mental limitations.

§ 792. Membership representation

The committee shall be composed of a minimum of 15 members appointed by the Governor and such additional members as the Governor may appoint. Insofar as practical the committee shall include representatives of industry, labor, business, agriculture, state and local government, and representatives of religious, legal, civic, educational, medical, veteran, welfare, women's and men's service organizations. Insofar as practical every geographic center and major employment area of the State shall be represented on the committee.

§ 793. Committee tenures

Members of the committee shall serve for a term of 3 years, except those of the members first appointed, $\frac{1}{2}$ of whom shall serve until June 30, 1971 and $\frac{1}{2}$ of whom shall serve until June 30, 1972. Vacancies of the committee shall be filled for the remainder of the term of the original appointment. Members whose terms expire may be reappointed.

§ 794. Nonpartisan status

The committee shall be nonpartisan, nonprofit and shall not engage in the dissemination of partisan principles. The committee shall be authorized to make necessary rules and regulations not inconsistent with this subchapter, for promoting its purposes.

§ 795. Committee officers

The chairman of the committee shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The chairman shall select a vice-chairman from the membership. The chairman shall be empowered to name an executive board of no more than 5 members from the full membership and shall himself head that board. Executive board members shall appoint a full-time executive secretary, subject to the Personnel Law, and designate the duties and responsibilities of the position. The executive board members may appoint such other personnel, subject to the Personnel Law, as may be necessary for the efficient performance of the duties prescribed by this subchapter.

§ 796. Primary duties

1. Continuing program. Carry on a continuing program to promote the employment of handicapped persons.
2. Cooperation with President's Committee. Work in cooperation with the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.
3. Employers and agencies. Cooperate with all employers and with all public or private agencies or organizations interested in locating or developing employment opportunities for those with either physical or mental limitations.
4. Rehabilitation. Cooperate with all agencies responsible for or interested in the rehabilitation and employment placement of the handicapped.
5. Community level. Encourage or assist, or both, in the organization of committees at the community level and work closely with such committees in promoting programs in their respective areas.
6. Educational programs. Conduct such educational programs as committee members consider necessary in order to better acquaint young adults with the numerous accomplishments of handicapped citizens.
7. Employer acceptance. Develop a program focused on greater employer acceptance of qualified handicapped workers.
8. Information. Inform all known handicapped job seekers of specific facilities available to assist them in locating suitable employment.

9. Promote programs. Support and promote any federal, state or local program designed to make more public buildings accessible to and usable by persons with physical limitations.

10. Reports. Report annually to the Governor on committee activities; and submit any recommendations believed necessary in carrying out the purpose of this subchapter.

§ 797. Authorization

The committee is authorized to receive any gifts, grants or donations made for any of the purposes of its program and to disburse and administer the same in accordance with the terms thereof.

§ 798. Expenses of committee members; payment; office

Members of the committee shall receive no compensation for services on the committee, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses, such as mileage from travel in personally owned automobile and meals, incurred in order to attend committee meetings called by the chairman. Such reimbursement shall be based on existing state law pertaining to reimbursement for travel for state employees. Office space shall be provided the committee within the state capitol building complex.

§ 799. Appropriation

The appropriation for the implementation of this subchapter shall be provided from supplemental funds as recommended by the Executive Department.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The following breakdown will explain the amounts of money needed for the next biennium:

	1969-70		1970-71
GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED			
Personal Services	(2) \$14,027	(2)	\$15,033
All Other	4,600		4,525
Capital Expenditures	1,446		150
	\$20,073		\$19,698
Totals			