

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE

(Filing No. H-593)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 728, L.D. 903, Bill,
"AN ACT to Establish the American and Canadian Exchange Commission."

Amend said Bill by striking out all of the Title and inserting
in place thereof the following: 'AN ACT to Establish the Maine-
Advisory
Canadian Exchange/Commission and Office.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out everything after the
enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'5 MRSA Pt. 15, c. 351, is enacted to read:

PART 15

MAINE-CANADIAN AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 351

MAINE-CANADIAN EXCHANGE ADVISORY COMMISSION AND OFFICE

§6001. Title

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Maine-
Advisory
Canadian Exchange/Commission Act."

§6002. Policy and purpose

The Legislature finds that there exists between Maine and its
neighboring Canadian Provinces of New Brunswick, Quebec, Nova
Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, a broad range
of shared experience, cultural traditions, social and economic
conditions and common goals, including shared recognition of

the urgent need to strengthen human services, to effectively use and conserve our natural resources and to pursue economic development within a framework of responsible environmental regulation.

The Legislature further finds that Maine enjoys with these provinces an increasing level of cooperation, commerce and other interaction as the opportunity and need for such interaction are increasingly recognized by both public and private officials.

The Legislature declares that it attaches the highest importance to the pursuit of common goals and to the further strengthening of relations in all areas between Maine and the Canadian Provinces.

The Legislature further declares that the multiplicity and complexity of such relations calls for direction and coordination by the Executive Department.

§6003. Maine-Canadian Exchange Office

There is established a Maine-Canadian Exchange Office which shall be concerned with strengthening all areas of regional cooperation between Maine and its neighboring Canadian Provinces, and which shall particularly encourage economic, cultural and educational exchanges between Maine and these provinces.

§6004. Director

The executive head of the Maine-Canadian Exchange Office shall be the director, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Maine-Canadian ^{Advisory} Exchange/Commission. The director shall be paid a salary fixed by the Governor from sums available under section 6006.

§6005. Director; powers and duties

The director of the Maine-Canadian Exchange Office shall:

1. Study and evaluate existing activities. Study and evaluate existing activities in the State on both the governmental and private levels involving cooperation with Canada, and particularly with the Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island;
2. Strengthen regional cooperation. Strengthen all areas of regional cooperation with Canada and give coordination and direction to related activities of state departments and agencies;
3. Determine new areas for cooperation. Determine new areas for fruitful regional cooperation, with particular attention to the potential for social betterment, economic growth, improved natural resource utilization and management and the enhancement of the environment;
4. Encourage exchanges. Encourage and assist economic, governmental, cultural and educational exchanges and other

modes of improved contact with Canada;

5. Disseminate information. Disseminate information on Canadian relations to the public;

6. Administer certain funds. Administer such funds as may be available to it for the purposes of assisting in the development of improved relations and cooperation between Maine and Canada.

§6006. Funds. Funds from the Federal Government or from any individual, group, foundation, corporation or other private source may be accepted by the Maine-Canadian Exchange Office and expended for purposes consistent with this chapter.

§6007. ^{Advisory} ←———— Maine-Canadian Exchange/Commission. There is established the ^{Advisory} ←————→ Maine-Canadian Exchange/Commission. The commission shall consist of 9 members, all of whom shall be citizens of this State. The Governor shall appoint 5 members, 3 for a term of one year and 2 for a term of 2 years, at least 2 of whom shall be fluent in the French language. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall each appoint 2 members, one for a term of one year and one for a term of (two) years. At least one member appointed by the President of the Senate and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House shall be fluent in the French language. No member of the Legislature shall be appointed to the commission. In the event of the

death or resignation of any member, the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.

Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at the rate then current for state employees from any funds available under section 6006. Six members shall constitute a quorum. The commission shall designate one of its members as chairman.

\$6008. Duties; meetings. The commission shall advise the director in the carrying out of his powers and duties and in addition shall assist the director in encouraging the strengthening of all areas of cooperation with ^{the} Canadian Provinces, and particularly in encouraging economic, cultural and educational exchange between Maine and ^{the} Canadian provinces. The commission shall meet at least 4 times in each year with the director and at such other times on the call of the chairman, at the request of the director or at the request of any member, as shall be necessary to carry out the duties outlined in this section.

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to more clearly outline the powers and duties of the Maine-Canadian Exchange Office and Advisory Commission.

Reported by the Committee on State Government.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
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