

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1785

H. P. 1458

House of Representatives, April 8, 1975

On Motion of Mr. Cooney of Sabattus, referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kany of Waterville.

Cosponsors: Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro, Mr. Spencer of Standish and Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Establish the Maine Vocational Development Commission.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State is now deficient in positive programs of employment training directed to specific jobs in specific industries; and

Whereas, the current rate of unemployment in Maine is higher than 11%; and

Whereas, in the present climate of economic recession, the high unemployment rate and lack of incentives for industrial expansion create severe hardship for many Maine families; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA c. 13, subchapter IX, is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER IX

MAINE VOCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

§ 1261. Purpose

With this subchapter, the Legislature intends to initiate and encourage training programs for employment in specific jobs in new or expanding in-

dustries, presently existing or intending to locate in Maine, by establishing the Maine Vocational Development Commission.

§ 1262. Definitions

The following words when used in this subchapter shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

1. Commission. "Commission" means the Maine Vocational Development Commission.

2. Training program. "Training program" means a program, approved by the commission, for employment training in specific jobs in new or expanding industries, presently existing or intending to locate in Maine.

§ 1263. Commission

There is established the Maine Vocational Development Commission to consist of the Director of the Bureau of Vocational Education in the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the Commissioner of the Department of Manpower Affairs and the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Industry, or their authorized representatives, or their successors under any governmental reorganization. The members of the commission shall serve without pay, other than their actual expenses while carrying out the duties of the commission.

§ 1264. Powers and duties

The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Applications. Seek, accept and act on applications for the establishment of training programs;
2. Agreements. Approve agreements between any employer and the commission for the establishment of training programs;
3. Funds. Administer any funds received and authorize the expenditure of any funds used to carry out the purposes of this subchapter;
4. Promotion. Promote the establishment of training programs;
5. Rules and regulations. Make and enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter;
6. Report. Make a report annually on or before January 1st to the Governor and the Legislature describing the work of the commission.
7. Receive funds. Accept and expend funds available under any Federal Act or from any other source for the purposes of this subchapter.

§ 1265. Applications

The commission shall seek, accept and act on applications for the establishment of training programs from an employer in any new or expanding industry presently existing or intending to locate in Maine. When acting on any application, the commission shall, among other factors, consider:

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1. Prevailing wage rate. The prevailing wage rates in the industry;
2. Financial commitment. The financial commitment of the applicant;
3. Growth potential. The growth potential of the industry; and
4. Prevailing economic conditions. The prevailing economic conditions in the area in which the industry is or will be located.

§ 1266. Agreements

When the commission approves an application as described in section 1265, the Department of Commerce and Industry may negotiate an agreement with the applicant for the development and establishment of a training program. In developing this training program, the Department of Commerce and Industry shall cooperate with the Bureau of Vocational Education and the applicant.

§ 1267. Establishment of training programs; agreement approval

Any training program described in the agreement negotiated under section 1266, may be established only after the approval of the agreement by the commission. The expenditure of any funds for the establishment of training programs shall be authorized by the commission only after approval of the agreement.

§ 1268. Use of funds

The use of any funds received by the commission shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Individual training programs. The development of individual training programs;
2. Facilities or equipment. The lease and purchase of facilities or equipment for training programs; and
3. Hiring of instructors. The hiring of instructors for and the promotion of training programs.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Maine Vocational Development Commission the sum of \$400,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
MAINE VOCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION		
Personal Services	(4) \$ 50,000	(4) \$ 50,000
All Other	150,000	150,000
Capital Expenditures	—	—
	<hr/> \$200,000	<hr/> \$200,000

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill creates the Maine Vocational Development Commission. This commission is empowered to establish employment training programs for specific jobs by reaching agreements with an employer in new and expanding industries, presently existing or intending to locate in Maine. The commission is also authorized to promote training programs as a new incentive to industrial expansion within the State.