

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 944

S. P. 314

In Senate, March 5, 1979

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

Presented by Senator Chapman of Sagadahoc.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Create a Tourism Advisory Council to Study Maine's Tourism Industry.

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

Sec. 1. Council established. A Tourism Advisory Council is hereby established to determine the current status of the State's tourism industry, to provide recommendations as to what action, if any, be taken to insure that the tourism industry continue as a major part of the Maine economy.

Sec. 2. Membership. The council shall be composed of the following members: The Governor or his representative; the Director of the State Development Office; one member of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; one member of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and 5 members of the general business community, to be appointed by the Governor. At least one of the 5 members shall represent small business.

Sec. 3. Meetings. The council shall meet within one month after enactment of this legislation to organize and elect a chairman. Subsequent meetings shall be subject to the call of the chairman.

4. Report to the Governor and the Legislature. The council shall present a final report to the Governor and the Legislature. The report shall include, but not

be limited to: An assessment of the current status of the state's tourism industry; current impact of the industry on the state's economy; potential impact on the economy; and recommendations to achieve the potential impact of the industry on the economy of Maine.

Sec. 5. Compensation of members. The council members shall not receive compensation for their service on the council but shall be reimbursed for any expenses incurred in the process of their service.

STATEMENT OF FACT

One of the state's major industries is tourism. In recent years there has been a growing concern that the State has not fulfilled its obligation in insuring that Maine's tourist industry be competitive with that of other states and neighboring provinces in the Dominion of Canada. This legislation would establish a mechanism to look at the state's tourism industry to see what can be done by both the public and private sectors to improve that industry and insure a competitive edge for the State with its competitors.