

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Governor's Bill)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 644

H. P. 568 House of Representatives, February 4, 1981
On Motion of Representative Beaulieu of Portland, referred to the
Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Nelson of Portland.

Cosponsors: Representative Chonko of Topsham, Senator Clark of
Cumberland and Senator C. Sewall of Lincoln.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Establishing the Women's Training and Employment Program.

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

26 MRSA c. 20 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 20

WOMEN'S TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT ACT

§ 1501. Statement of need

A large number of institutional and cultural forces continue to reinforce the disadvantaged position of women in Maine's economy. Women's role in Maine's work force is characterized by the segregation of women into low paying, low mobility, occupations, a high unemployment rate and increasing numbers of women seeking employment. Whereas these factors show a compelling need to provide Maine women the broadest opportunity to participate in the labor force, to move from the ranks of the disadvantaged and to play a full role in aiding and benefiting from the state's economic growth, therefore, it is the policy of the State to promote and assist in the development of training and employment opportunities for women.

§ 1502. Women's Training and Employment Division

There is established, within the Department of Manpower Affairs, the Women's Training and Employment Division whose director shall be appointed by the commissioner and shall serve at his pleasure.

The division shall provide programs to aid in meeting the training and employment needs of Maine women, with particular attention to the needs of young women, women who are displaced homemakers and low-income women.

§ 1503. Scope of activities

The training and employment assistance activities of the division may include, but shall not be limited to:

1. Research, policy and programs. Research, policy and program development;
2. Information. The gathering and dissemination of information;
3. Technical assistance. Technical assistance to education, training and placement services;
4. Demonstration programs. The development and administration of demonstration programs; and
5. Assistance to employers. Assistance to private and public sector employers.

§ 1504. Coordination

The division shall maintain a close liaison with education, training, placement and manpower research agencies and programs, with employer groups and with the Maine Commission for Women to assure that the division's services are appropriately developed and utilized and to provide the commissioner with accurate information and policy recommendations on the training and employment needs of women.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides a policy commitment and the minimal resources necessary to carry out improved efforts to meet the training and employment needs of women. The Women's Training and Employment Division established by the Legislation provides needed resources and skills for the state's effort to enable women to make the greatest contribution to and receive the greatest benefits from participation in the state's labor force.

The appropriation for this bill is contained in the Part II budget. The bill requests an appropriation of \$95,000 for fiscal year 1982 and \$95,000 for fiscal year 1983.