

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 730

S.P. 258

In Senate, March 12, 1987

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate  
Presented by Senator TUTTLE of York.

Cosponsored by Representative ARMSTRONG of Wilton, Senator EMERSON of Penobscot, Representative DUFFY of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Create the Maine Business  
Advisory Board.

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

6 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004, sub-§10, ¶A, sub-¶(44-B)  
7 is enacted to read:

8 (44-B) Industry Maine Business Expenses 10 MRSA  
9 Advisory Board Only §10001

10 Sec. 2. 10 MRSA c. 1101 is enacted to read:

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12

CHAPTER 1101

MAINE BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

1       §10001. Establishment and purpose

2               There is established in Title 5, section 12004,  
3 subsection 10, the Maine Business Advisory Board.  
4 The board shall have the following objectives:

5               1. Stabilization and development. The stabili-  
6 zation and development of commerce and industry in  
7 the State;

8               2. Business climate. The maintenance of a posi-  
9 tive business climate by the State and a positive im-  
10 age of the State in this regard; and

11               3. Contribution. The recognition by State Gov-  
12 ernment and by the citizens of the State of the im-  
13 portance and contributions of business to the State.

14       §10002. Accomplishment of objectives

15               To accomplish the objectives of section 10001,  
16 the board shall:

17               1. Strategy. Initiate and oversee the develop-  
18 ment of a state strategy for commercial and industri-  
19 al stabilization and development;

20               2. Coordination. Coordinate the activities of  
21 the various state funded agencies involved in indus-  
22 trial stabilization and development;

23               3. Evaluation. Oversee and evaluate the per-  
24 formance of these agencies; and

25               4. Report. Make a report and recommendations as  
26 needed and at least yearly to the Governor concerning  
27 these activities.

28               The board shall advise on the need for  
29 industry-wide assistance programs and act as a vehi-  
30 cle for intervention in the case of a crisis in an  
31 industry or a major individual company and shall rec-  
32 ommend and review major development projects.

33       §10003. Membership and organization

34               The membership of the board shall consist of in-

1 dividuals representing the following 15 organizations  
2 and chosen as indicated:

3 1. Private sector. Members representing the  
4 private sector shall be selected as follows:

5 A. Six executives shall be selected by the Gov-  
6 ernor in consultation with the Maine Chamber of  
7 Commerce and Industry, one from each of the fol-  
8 lowing industries: Paper, tourism, farming or  
9 farm products, defense, leather goods and elec-  
10 tric or electronic equipment. As appointments  
11 expire, the Governor shall change this board com-  
12 position so that the board continues to represent  
13 the leading business groups in the State; and

14 B. One banking executive shall be selected by  
15 the Governor in consultation with the Maine Bank-  
16 ers Association;

17 2. Public sector. The Director of the State De-  
18 velopment Office, the Director of the State Planning  
19 Office, one representative of the Department of Labor  
20 and one representative of the Department of Transpor-  
21 tation of at least the deputy commissioner classifica-  
22 tion selected by the commissioners of the respec-  
23 tive departments;

24 3. Education sector. One senior administrator  
25 from the state university system and one senior ad-  
26 ministrator from the state vocational education sys-  
27 tem appointed by the Governor;

28 4. Labor. A labor spokesman appointed by the  
29 Governor in consultation with the Maine American Fed-  
30 eration of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organiza-  
31 tions in this State; and

32 5. Environmental concerns. A representative of  
33 environmental protection interests chosen by the Na-  
34 tional Resources Council of Maine.

35 All appointments from the private and labor  
36 sectors shall be for 2-year terms. An individual may  
37 be appointed for no more than 3 consecutive 2-year  
38 terms. One half of the appointments in these sectors  
39 at the initiation of the board shall be for 4 years.

1 These individuals shall be eligible for only one ad-  
2 ditional consecutive 2-year term. Members shall be  
3 compensated in accordance with Title 5, chapter 379.

4 Subcommittees to deal with specific industries  
5 shall be set up by the board as the need requires and  
6 may include a minority of nonboard members appointed  
7 by the board. Nonboard members of subcommittees  
8 shall be compensated at the same rate as board mem-  
9 bers.

10 The board shall choose its chairman from the pri-  
11 ivate sector.

12 The Governor shall be responsible for setting up  
13 this board. This board shall have its initial meet-  
14 ing no later than 4 months from the effective date of  
15 this chapter. The board shall meet as often as re-  
16 quired to accomplish its objectives, but at least  
17 quarterly.

18 \$10004. Business Advocate to be executive secretary

19 There is established to carry out the purposes of  
20 this section the position of Business Advocate in the  
21 Office of the Governor. The Business Advocate shall  
22 be appointed by the Governor, shall serve at his  
23 pleasure and be paid a salary fixed by the Governor.  
24 The Business Advocate shall be the Executive Secre-  
25 tary of the Maine Business Advisory Board. He shall  
26 perform the following additional functions:

27 1. Review of legislation. Review current and  
28 proposed state legislation, rules and policies from  
29 the viewpoint of their impact on business and dissem-  
30 inate and advocate his findings in this regard to the  
31 board and the Governor and, with their concurrence,  
32 to the business community, state agencies and the  
33 general public;

34 2. Liaison. Initiate and maintain liaison be-  
35 tween the State and the private sector;

36 3. Business assistance. Assist businesses in  
37 dealings with the State; and

38 4. Business climate. By his actions, impart to

1 the business community that the State is supportive  
2 of business.

3 A person to perform these functions shall be des-  
4 ignated by the Governor within 3 months from the ef-  
5 fective date of this chapter. He must have industri-  
6 al experience both from within and outside this  
7 State. His experience shall include at least 10  
8 years in industry, a position at the senior manage-  
9 ment level, industry positions both in this State and  
10 outside the State, a position with a company of at  
11 least 500 employees and a position with a company in  
12 one of Maine's 5 largest industries. This position  
13 need not have been in this State.

14 The Business Advocate must have a positive atti-  
15 tude toward business and be capable of convincing the  
16 business community that he represents their interests  
17 and his performance shall be judged largely on his  
18 ability to do so.

19 Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are  
20 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the  
21 purposes of this Act.

	<u>1987-88</u>	<u>1988-89</u>
22		
23	<u>EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT</u>	
24	Office of Governor	
25	(1.0)	(1.0)
26	\$30,000	\$42,000
27	Provides funds for the	
28	function of the Busi-	
29	ness Advocate.	
30	Maine Business Advisory	
31	Board	
32	7,750	10,000
33	Provides funds for the	
34	expenses of the board	
35	members.	

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TOTAL

\$37,750

\$52,000

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill creates the Maine Business Advisory Board. The objective of the board is to make recommendations to the Governor as to actions which will stabilize and develop business, create and promote a positive business climate and make State Government and the citizens of the State aware of the importance and contribution of business to the State. In fulfilling this objective, the board is to develop state strategy for aiding business and coordinate and evaluate the activities of the various state-funded public and quasi-public agencies involved with business.

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The bill creates the function of Business Advocate in the Office of the Governor and gives the person performing this function the position of executive secretary of the board. This person is to have additional functions of reviewing the regulations and taxation that affect business and of seeking to improve the climate that the State Government provides for business and the image of the State as being hospitable to business.

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The bill contains an appropriation section to cover the expenses of the board and the salary of the Business Advocate.

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