

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1275

S.P. 417

In Senate, April 15, 1987

Reference to the Committee on Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate.  
Presented by President PRAY of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Senator PERKINS of Hancock, Representative HUSSEY of Milo, Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Enhance the Maine Job Training  
Partnership Program.

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA chapter 25, first 2 lines, are repealed and the following enacted in their place:

CHAPTER 25

JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

SUBCHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §2004, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 258, §1, is repealed.

1           Sec. 3. 26 MRS.A chapter 25, sub-c. II is enacted  
2 to read:

3                                   SUBCHAPTER II

4                                   JOB TRAINING PROGRAM

5           §2011. Funds

6           All funds under this subchapter shall be distrib-  
7 uted among the State's 2 Job Training Partnership Act  
8 service delivery areas. Funds will be allocated to  
9 the State's 2 private industry councils serving all  
10 counties. The Department of Labor shall distribute  
11 these funds to the private industry councils, in the  
12 2 service delivery areas, on the county-based formula  
13 provided in the Job Training Partnership Act.

14          §2012. Local plans

15           Each private industry council shall operate pro-  
16 grams under this subchapter based on an annual plan.  
17 The annual plan shall reflect local needs, program  
18 strategies and activities, training and services,  
19 projected expenditures and anticipated outcomes.

20           1. Submission of plans to commissioner. Each  
21 private industry council must submit its annual plan  
22 to the Commissioner of Labor before funds may be pro-  
23 vided to the council under this subchapter. Each  
24 private industry council shall attempt to secure ad-  
25 ditional funding from other public and private  
26 sources, including the Federal Government and private  
27 employers, in an amount equal to the state contribu-  
28 tion.

29           2. Publication of plan. Each private industry  
30 council shall publicize its annual plan by making it  
31 available to local education agencies, local economic  
32 development agencies and other appropriate  
33 community-based and governmental organizations.

34          §2013. Program activities

35           Program activities under this subchapter are in-  
36 tended to benefit workers and employers and may in-  
37 clude, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1           1. Retraining of displaced workers. Upgrading  
2           or retraining of individuals whose jobs are threat-  
3           ened by skill obsolescence or by imminent plant clo-  
4           tures;
- 5           2. Training of workers ineligible for other pro-  
6           grams. Training of unemployed workers whose household  
7           income makes them ineligible for other training ser-  
8           vices;
- 9           3. Provision of support services. Provision of  
10           support services that allow individuals with multiple  
11           barriers to employment to participate in training;
- 12           4. Provision of stipends. Provision of stipends  
13           that allow needy individuals to participate and to  
14           remain in skills training activities;
- 15           5. Assistance to school students. Provision of  
16           participant wages and services for programs targeting  
17           in-school youth for whom transition to work is immi-  
18           nent;
- 19           6. Training packages for economic development.  
20           Development of training packages for firms intending  
21           to expand or locate in the State;
- 22           7. General job creation activities. Development  
23           of marketing studies, labor force data surveys and  
24           specialized recruiting campaigns to encourage job  
25           creation, especially as part of local economic devel-  
26           opment efforts;
- 27           8. Reimbursement of training costs. Reimburse-  
28           ment of appropriate training costs for firms that  
29           have limited resources to perform necessary training  
30           of new workers or upgrading of employees with insuf-  
31           ficient skills; and
- 32           9. Other activities. Provision of other activi-  
33           ties meeting the critical skill needs of workers and  
34           employment needs of firms that can take place within  
35           the mode of training services listed under this sec-  
36           tion.
- 37           §2014. Training and services

1        Each private industry council shall provide or  
2 subcontract for training activities and services,  
3 including those outlined the United States Job Train-  
4 ing Partnership Act, Public Law 97-404, Sections 204  
5 and 205, and stipends for needy individuals may be  
6 made, based on a system of eligibility designed by  
7 the appropriate private industry council and applied  
8 uniformly within that council's jurisdiction. Stip-  
9 ends are intended to encourage participation in  
10 training programs of individuals for whom the need  
11 for income is immediate and pressing.

12        §2015. Participant eligibility

13        This subchapter is intended to serve individuals  
14 whose participation in the labor force might be de-  
15 pendent on, or significantly enhanced by, the train-  
16 ing and services provided under this subchapter.  
17 These individuals may include, but are not limited  
18 to:

- 19        1. Unemployed. Unemployed workers;
- 20        2. Low-income. Economically disadvantaged indi-  
21 viduals;
- 22        3. Working poor. The working poor;
- 23        4. Displaced workers. Individuals who have suf-  
24 fered, or who are about to suffer, job dislocation  
25 due to economic or technological changes;
- 26        5. Employment difficulties. Individuals who are  
27 having difficulty in finding and keeping work;
- 28        6. Lack of advancement opportunities. Individu-  
29 als whose skills or occupational setting prevent them  
30 from advancing to higher paying jobs;
- 31        7. Threat of job loss. Individuals whose eco-  
32 nommic self-sufficiency or job security is threatened  
33 by job skills related conditions; and
- 34        8. Traditional barriers to employment. Individ-  
35 uals with traditional barriers to employment, includ-  
36 ing, but not limited to, the handicapped, women, Aid  
37 to Families with Dependent Children recipients, youth  
38 or older workers.

1     §2016. Employer eligibility

2             This subchapter shall serve employers whose  
3 skilled labor needs cannot be met solely through  
4 their own resources or by other conventional re-  
5 sources in the community; and employers whose invest-  
6 ments in expansion or location in the State might de-  
7 pend on services available under this subchapter.

8             Such employers may include, but are not limited  
9 to:

10            1. Job openings. Employers with bona fide job  
11 openings;

12            2. Lack of resources. Employers who do not have  
13 appropriate resources to train new or existing em-  
14 ployees;

15            3. Expanding industries. Employers with jobs in  
16 expanding industries or occupations where availability  
17 of skilled labor is problematical; or

18            4. Desirable occupations. Other employers with  
19 occupations that are durable or that have high trans-  
20 ferability of skills.

21     §2017. Annual report

22            1. Annual report to Legislature. Within 90 days  
23 following the end of the funding year, each private  
24 industry council shall submit an annual report to the  
25 Legislature reviewing the outcomes and other appro-  
26 priate data of the program.

27            2. Content of report. At a minimum, these re-  
28 ports must contain information relating to:

29            A. Expenditures;

30            B. Enrollments;

31            C. The degree to which intended outcomes were  
32 achieved; and

33            D. The impact of the program on the local labor  
34 market.

1           **Sec. 4. Appropriation.** The following funds are  
 2 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the  
 3 purposes of this Act.

4	<u>1987-88</u>	<u>1988-89</u>
5 <u>LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF</u>		
6           Job Training Partnership		
7           All Other	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

8   **STATEMENT OF FACT**

9           A trained work force is being increasingly recog-  
 10 nized as a critical element to the success of the  
 11 State's economy. Economic projections to the year  
 12 1995 highlight the need to prepare all Maine people  
 13 for the requirements of the workplace. A slower rate  
 14 of population growth combined with moderate economic  
 15 growth is projected to create the tightest labor mar-  
 16 ket since World War II. To meet the need of Maine  
 17 businesses for trained workers, education and job  
 18 training programs must train new workers entering the  
 19 work force for the first time, as well as to retrain  
 20 experienced workers for the new jobs being created in  
 21 a rapidly changing economy.

22           Existing training programs need increased funding  
 23 to adequately meet the State's training needs. In  
 24 addition, training programs need funds that are free  
 25 of the narrow limitations and restrictions which gov-  
 26 ern the expenditure of federal funds.

27           Job training programs operated by the private in-  
 28 dustry councils are now primarily funded under the  
 29 Federal Job Training Partnership Act. This year  
 30 Maine received \$9,697,238 in Job Training Partnership  
 31 Act funds. Despite the strong support the program is  
 32 receiving in Congress, marginal reductions in funding  
 33 are likely, due to the federal deficit crisis. At  
 34 present and projected levels of fundings, demand for  
 35 training services far exceed available resources.

36           This bill provides funds to expand and improve

1 job training programs that are administered by  
2 Maine's 2 private industry councils. These funds, in  
3 combination with Job Training Partnership Act funds,  
4 will allow the private industry councils to create a  
5 comprehensive system that responds to the needs of  
6 businesses for trained workers and the needs of Maine  
7 workers to find and maintain employment. It is esti-  
8 mated that an additional 800 to 900 trainees will be  
9 enrolled into job training programs as a result of  
10 the proposed appropriation and that hundreds of em-  
11 ployers will benefit directly from the programs.

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