

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
(New Draft of H.P. 887, L.D. 1188)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1772

H.P. 1294 House of Representatives, June 9, 1987  
Reported by Representative BOST from the Committee on  
Education and printed under Joint Rule 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk  
Original bill sponsored by Representative BOTT of Orono.  
Cosponsored by Senator PEARSON of Penobscot and Representative  
NORTON of Winthrop.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **Resolve, to Establish a Task Force on**  
2 **Post-secondary Education Financing.**  
3

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

8 Whereas, the cost of attending post-secondary ed-  
9 ucational institutions is increasing dramatically;  
10 and

11 Whereas, it is unclear whether the current level  
12 and mix of types of financial aid is appropriate in  
13 light of the educational and financial needs of the  
14 State's post-secondary students; and

1           Whereas, a consistent, coordinated financial aid  
2 effort is essential to encourage and enable Maine  
3 students to attend post-secondary institutions; and

4           Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
5 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
6 the Constitution of Maine and require the following  
7 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
8 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
9 therefore, be it

10           **Task force established. Resolved:** That there is  
11 established the Task Force on Post-secondary Educa-  
12 tion Financing consisting of 14 members as follows:

13           1. Legislators. One Senator and 2 members of  
14 the House of Representatives, appointed jointly by  
15 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
16 House, at least one of whom shall be a member of the  
17 Joint Standing Committee on Education;

18           2. Gubernatorial appointments. One officer of a  
19 bank or other financial institution who has experi-  
20 ence in the administration of student loan programs,  
21 one member who is a student currently enrolled in a  
22 post-secondary educational institution in the State  
23 and receiving financial aid and one parent of a stu-  
24 dent in a post-secondary educational institution who  
25 is receiving financial aid, to be appointed by the  
26 Governor;

27           3. Commissioner. The Commissioner of Education-  
28 al and Cultural Services or a designee;

29           4. Guidance counselor. One member who is a sec-  
30 ondary education guidance or career counselor famil-  
31 iar with student aid programs, to be appointed by the  
32 Maine Personnel and Guidance Association; and

33           5. Financial aid officer. Two members who are  
34 financial aid administrators in a private  
35 post-secondary institution, one of which is a  
36 business-oriented institution; 2 members who are fi-  
37 nancial aid administrators at a campus of the Univer-  
38 sity of Maine System; one member who is a financial  
39 aid administrator at the Maine Maritime Academy; and  
40 one member who is a financial aid administrator at a

1 vocational-technical institute, to be appointed by  
2 the Maine Association of Financial Aid Directors.

3 Appointments shall be made within 15 days of the  
4 effective date of this resolve and notice sent to the  
5 Executive Director of the Legislative Council. With-  
6 in 15 days of the completion of the appointment of  
7 the members, the chairman of the Legislative Council  
8 shall convene the first meeting, when the members  
9 shall elect a chairman; and be it further

10 **Mission. Resolved:** That the task force shall  
11 study existing post-secondary education financial aid  
12 programs and resources, including the following:

13 1. Review trends in the level and mix of loan,  
14 grant and work-study financial aid programs and as-  
15 sess the effects of those trends;

16 2. Assess the financial aid needs of Maine stu-  
17 dents and the effectiveness of available programs in  
18 meeting those needs;

19 3. Review the coordination of federal, state and  
20 other programs and make recommendations for improved  
21 coordination, if appropriate;

22 4. Review financial aid programs for graduate  
23 students;

24 5. Review the information available to parents  
25 and students on the financial aid options available  
26 and assess the need for a clearinghouse to dissemi-  
27 nate that information;

28 6. Consider other relevant matters which the  
29 task force determines necessary to properly complete  
30 its study; and be it further

31 **Staffing. Resolved:** That staff assistance for  
32 the task force may be requested from the Legislative  
33 Council. Technical assistance shall also be provided  
34 by the Department of Educational and Cultural Ser-  
35 vices and the State Planning Office; and be it fur-  
36 ther

1           **Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the  
2 commission who are Legislators shall receive the leg-  
3 islative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised  
4 Statutes, Title 3, section 2, for each day's attend-  
5 ance at commission meetings. All members of the com-  
6 mission shall receive reimbursement for expenses upon  
7 application to the Executive Director of the Legisla-  
8 tive Council; and be it further

9           **Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall  
10 submit its report, together with any necessary imple-  
11 menting legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee  
12 on Education on or before February 1, 1988; and be it  
13 further

14           **Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following  
15 funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry  
16 out the purposes of this resolve.

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19           Task           Force           on  
20           Post-secondary    Education  
21           Financing

22           Personal Services                   \$1,000  
23           All Other                            6,400

24  
25           Total   \$7,400

26           Provides funds for per  
27           diem, travel and relat-  
28           ed expenses.

29           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited  
30 in the preamble, this resolve shall take effect when  
31 approved.

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FISCAL NOTE

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The Department of Educational and Cultural Services and State Planning Office can absorb the cost of providing assistance within existing resources.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This new draft amends the makeup of the task force to broaden the perspective of its study, clarifies the process for appointment and convening of the task force, refines the mission of the task force, provides staffing and technical assistance, amends the reporting date and revises the appropriation necessary to fund the study.

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