ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document   NO. 2171

H.P. 1590   House of Representatives, February 1, 1988
      Reported by Representative PRIEST from the Committee on
Economic Development. Sent up for concurrence and ordered
printed. Approved by Legislative Council, June 19, 1987.
                                    EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
      Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Economic
Development suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 19.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1   AN ACT to Provide Challenge Grants for the
2   Development of Municipal and Regional
3   Economic Development Strategies.
4

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

7   Sec. 1.   5 MRSA §13072, sub-§3, ¶¶A, B and C
8   are enacted to read:

A. Any municipality, municipal development
organization or regional economic development
organization which seeks assistance from the
department shall be required to have a municipal
or regional economic development strategy that is
consistent with the provisions of the state
strategy.

B. Any regional economic or community development
strategy shall include policies to promote and
facilitate the development of affordable housing
for low-income and middle-income persons and
policies to manage growth prudently.

C. Development grants shall be provided to
municipalities and regional economic development
organizations on a matching basis, the ratio to be
determined by the commissioner according to
standards established by rules in accordance with
the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, chapter
375.

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

                                                    1988-89

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

   Office of
   Community Development

   All Other $500,000

      The money appropriated
      to the Office of
      Community Development
      shall be used as
      development grants
      pursuant to the Maine
      Revised Statutes,
      Title 5, section
      13072, subsection 3.
      Grants provided from
      this

1   appropriation   shall
2   not exceed $25,000 per
3   grant.

4   STATEMENT OF FACT

5   This bill is a product of a study conducted by the
6   Joint Standing Committee on Economic Development with
7   respect to 14 regional economies located throughout
8   the State. The committee received considerable
9   testimony from municipalities, economic development
10   organizations and individuals which emphasized the
11   need for municipal and regional economic development
12   strategies.

13   This bill proposes that any municipality,
14   municipal development organization or regional
15   economic development organization which obtains any
16   assistance from the Department of Economic and
17   Community Development be required to develop a
18   municipal or regional strategy. This strategy is
19   required to include provisions to promote and
20   facilitate the development of affordable housing for
21   low-income and middle-income households, as well as
22   policies to manage growth prudently.

23   This bill also proposes a $500,000 appropriation
24   to the Department of Economic and Community
25   Development to be matched with local and regional
26   resources for the creation of those strategies.

27   The purpose of the bill is to determine more
28   precisely the assets and liabilities of a municipality
29   or region and to target resources more effectively to
30   utilize opportunities and resolve problems.

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