

(EMERGENCY) SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

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NO. 2293

H.P. 1674 House of Representatives, February 18, 1988 Reported by Representative HICHBORN from the Committee on Economic Development. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed. Approved by the Legislative Council on June 19, 1987. Reference to the Committee on Economic Development suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 19. EDWIN H. PERT. Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Determine the Extent and Impact of Unemployed Persons No Longer Eligible for Unemployment Insurance Upon the State of Maine.

Emergency preamble. of the Whereas, Acts Legislature do not 'become effective until 90 days 8 after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

9 Whereas, there are many persons who fail to find 10 employment following the termination of their

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1 unemployment compensation insurance benefits; and

2 Whereas, many people face severe obstacles such as 3 illiteracy, the lack of skills and other liabilities 4 which prevent them from obtaining employment; and

5 Whereas, available information is inadequate to 6 identify the total number of unemployed persons 7 ineligible for unemployment compensation, the reason 8 for their inability to secure employment and their 9 current status; and

10 Whereas, the loss of these people from the work 11 force, especially at a time when there are severe 12 labor shortages in many areas of the State, is a 13 serious and costly liability to the State and its 14 economy; and

15 Whereas, the tragedy of this situation has a 16 severe and adverse impact upon the families and 17 communities of these forgotten people; and

18 Whereas, this situation needs to be addressed 19 immediately to effectively address the labor shortage 20 in Maine and the adverse impacts upon the State; and

2 1Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these 22 facts create an emergency within the meaning of the 23 Maine and require the following Constitution of 24 immediately necessary legislation as for the 25 preservation of the public peace, health and safety; 26 now, therefore,

27 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as 28 follows:

29. Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §2005, sub-§5, ¶¶G and H, as 30. enacted by PL 1987, c. 542, Pt. F, §4, are amended to 31. read:

32 G. Prepare an annual report to the Governor and 33 Legislature, which shall be a public document and 34 issue such other studies, reports or documents it 35 deems advisable in carrying out the purposes of 36 this section; and

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H. Peform the following additional duties:

(1) Recommend to the Governor and Legislature substate service delivery areas;

(2) Recommend resource allocations under the United States Job Training Partnership Act, Titles I and II, that are not subject to the United States Job Training Partnership Act, Sections 202(a);

(3) Develop appropriate relationships with other programs;

(4) Coordinate activities with Private Industry Councils; and

(5) Recommend variations in performance standards. Such recommendations shall be contained in the "Human Resource Development Coordination Criteria.; and"

17 Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §2005, sub-§5, ¶I is enacted to 18 read:

> I. Develop and implement a procedure to determine the extent and status of unemployed persons no longer eligible for unemployment compensation in this State. In conducting this task, the council shall determine:

(1) The number and location of these unemployed persons who are no longer eligible to receive unemployment compensation insurance;

(2) The reasons for their inability to obtain employment;

(3) The number of these people who are receiving assistance from other state programs and the amount of assistance;

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(4) The current means by which these people derive a livelihood; and

(5) The means by which these people may be gainfully employed, to include specific policies and actions requiring legislation for implementation.

The Human Resource Development Council shall be assisted in this duty by the state agencies represented on the council and the Division of Community Services.

11	The co										
12	recommen										
13	Session	of	the	114t	h Le	gisla	ture	no	late	r	than
14	January	15,	1989	and	ther	eafter	as	requ	ired	by	the
15	Legisla	ture.									

16 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency 17 cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when 18 approved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

20 This bill is a product of a study of 14 regional economies throughout the State which was conducted by the Joint Standing Committee on Economic Development. 21 22 23 The committee found that unemployment statistics may not accurately reflect economic and social distress in a municipality or region because these figures do not 24 25 26 include persons who no longer are eligible for unemployment insurance benefits and who failed to find 27 employment. As a result of illiteracy, lack of skills 28 29 and other problems, many individuals are unable to 30 find employment and may be "falling between the cracks 31 of the system."

32 This bill proposes that the recently created Human 33 Resource Development Council develop and implement a 34 procedure to determine the extent and status of eligible 35 persons no longer for unemployment 36 compensation in Maine. In addition, the council will 37 determine the location of these unemployed 38 individuals, the reasons for their failure to obtain

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1 employment and the means by which they could become 2 gainfully employed.

The council shall report its findings to the First Regular Session of the ll4th Legislature.

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