

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 42

S.P. 59

In Senate, January 31, 1989

Reported by Senator ANDREWS of Cumberland for the Committee on Housing and Economic Development.

Reference to the Committee on Housing and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 19.

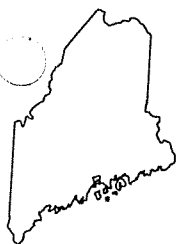
A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Make More Effective Use of Maine's Public and Private Higher
Educational Institutions as Sources of Input for Public Policy.



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

3 20-A MRSA c. 410 is enacted to read:

5 CHAPTER 410

7 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
9 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

11 §10801. Central information and response system

13 Every public and private higher educational institution in
15 the State shall cooperate in the development of a centralized
17 information and response system with respect to the expertise and
19 resources of these institutions in the field of economic
21 development which shall include international trade and product
23 and technology development. The central information and response
25 system shall serve as a directory and central clearinghouse of
information by which the expertise and resources of these
institutions are made readily known and easily accessible. This
system shall also serve to respond to questions concerning
sources of information relating to economic development issues,
particularly with respect to expertise and types of assistance
available among Maine's public and private higher educational
institutions.

27 1. Public information. The Chancellor of the University of
29 Maine System shall publish a directory with the information
31 required by this section. The directory shall be updated at
least every 2 years. The directory shall contain, at a minimum,
the following information:

33 A. Categories of economic development expertise including
35 the names and locations of faculty members with expertise in
these categories;

37 B. Types and locations of assistance that can be provided
39 to assist the public and private sectors in the field of
economic development;

41 C. Other resources available at each institution or
43 resources that can be provided to assist the public and
private sectors in the field of economic development
45 including experimental facilities and research capacity; and

47 D. Types of ongoing research being conducted at each
49 institution in the area of economic development including
product and technology development.

51 2. Administration. The Chancellor of the University of
Maine System shall be responsible for the development and
oversight of the central information and response system. The

1 chancellor may delegate the creation of this system to an
3 organization representing the State's public and private higher
4 educational institutions, hereinafter referred to as the Council
5 of Higher Educational Institutions.

6
7 3. Report to the Legislature. The chancellor shall report
8 to the Legislature the progress that is being made with respect
9 to the development of the central information and response system
10 and the operation of this system in the chancellor's address to
11 the Legislature pursuant to section 10902-B.

12 **§10802. Analysis of pertinent issues**

13
14 The Council of Higher Educational Institutions may analyze
15 any issues determined by the council to be pertinent to economic
16 development and international trade, including activities and
17 policies implemented by this State or other states and nations.
18 The council shall report its findings and recommendations as
19 provided in section 10801.

20
21 1. Consistency between state needs and analyses. In
22 conducting studies and analyses of pertinent economic development
23 and international trade issues, with respect to the State, the
24 Council on Higher Educational Institutions shall strive to meet
25 the needs of state agencies involved in these issues and the
26 needs of the Legislature which approves state policies and
27 programs. The Council of Higher Educational Institutions shall
28 consult with the Department of Economic and Community
29 Development, the State Planning Office, and the Legislative
30 Council, as feasible, in designing studies in the area of
31 economic development and international trade for consideration by
32 state officials and lawmakers.

33
34 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

35
36
37
38 This bill is the product of the study on international trade
39 conducted by the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic
40 Development. This bill proposes to bring closer coordination and
41 cooperation between Maine's public and private higher educational
42 institutions and state agencies with respect to economic
43 development and international trade.

44
45 To achieve this purpose, the bill places responsibility with
46 the Chancellor of the University of Maine System to develop and
47 oversee a central information and response system. This system
48 will serve as a central clearinghouse of information with respect
49 to the expertise and resources of Maine's public and private
50 higher educational institutions available in the area of economic
51 development which includes product and technology development and
52 international trade.

1 The bill also provides that a directory be published to
2 serve as a guide to the expertise and resources of these
3 institutions. In addition, ongoing research in the field of
4 economic development will also be included in the directory.
5

6 In order to enable public and private higher educational
7 institutions to work more closely with state agencies in the
8 field of economic development which includes international trade,
9 the bill authorizes these institutions to undertake analyses and
10 studies of economic development issues pertinent to the State.
11 Wherever feasible, the Department of Economic and Community
12 Development, the State Planning Office and the Legislative
13 Council will be involved in providing input in the design of
14 studies of economic development issues of importance to the State.