

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2340

H.P. 1690

House of Representatives, February 22, 1990

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

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative BAILEY of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Representative MARSANO of Belfast, Representative MICHAUD of East Millinocket and Senator WEYMOUTH of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Improve the Job Opportunities Zone Act.



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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §15136, sub-§1, ¶¶G and H** are enacted to read:

4 G. Each area designated as a zone must submit a strategic
6 action plan to identify the following:

8 (1) Specific needs of the zone;

10 (2) Format for coordinating federal, state and local
12 resources; and

14 (3) Activities the zone will undertake to address
 needs in the zone.

16 H. Each zone must hire a full-time coordinator to be funded
18 through a flexible grant program.

20 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §15138, first ¶,** as amended by PL 1989, c. 443,
§15, is further amended to read:

22 Agencies of State Government shall cooperate to assess the
24 needs of zones and provide appropriate assistance to these
26 zones. There shall be a committee composed of, at a minimum, the
28 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, Director of
30 the State Planning Office, Commissioner of Transportation,
32 Commissioner of Labor, Commissioner of Educational and Cultural
34 Services, Executive Director of the Maine Technical College
36 System, Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine
 and the Director of the Maine State Housing Authority. The
 committee shall meet quarterly with representatives from each
 zone to review projects, assess the coordination of existing
 resources and identify any other potential resources to ensure
 that the needs of the zones are being addressed to the fullest
 extent possible.

38 **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §15138, sub-§7,** as amended by PL 1987, c. 769,
Pt. A, §25, is further amended to read:

40 **7. Infrastructure Assistance Program.** The department shall
42 work with the Department of Transportation, the Department of
44 Environmental Protection and the Public Utilities Commission to
46 develop an infrastructure program for each zone. Such a program
48 shall must include, but not be limited to, short-term and
 long-term goals and a carefully designed plan of implementation.
 The plan must include a mechanism to fund infrastructure
 improvements.

50 **Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §15138, sub-§10,** as amended by PL 1987, c. 769,
Pt. A, §25, is repealed.

2 **Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §15139, sub-§§1 to 4** are enacted to read:

4 1. Assistance. The department shall assist the zones by:

6 A. Giving priority status to the allocation of available
8 resources;

10 B. Upon request, providing appropriate technical assistance
12 to firms and industries locating within the zones pertaining
14 to completion of applications for state licenses and permits;

16 C. Focusing technical assistance and marketing resources to
18 support the business retention, expansion and recruitment
20 activities within the zones; and

22 D. Giving priority status to community development block
24 grant project applications submitted for eligible projects
26 and activities within the zones.

28 2. Assistance from the Department of Transportation. The
30 Department of Transportation shall assist zones by giving
32 priority status to requests for funds for planning and
34 implementation of eligible projects and activities within the
36 zones.

38 3. Assistance from the Department of Labor, the Department
40 of Educational and Cultural Services and the Maine Technical
42 College System. The Department of Labor, the Department of
44 Educational and Cultural Services and the Maine Technical College
46 System shall assist the zones by:

48 A. Giving priority status to requests for funds for
50 training and educational projects and activities within the
52 zones; and

54 B. Giving priority status in the allocation of resources
56 for demonstration projects in training and education within
58 the State.

60 4. Applications. Applications for designation of municipal
62 development districts within the zones are exempt from the
64 limitations on tax increment financing outlined in Title 30-A,
66 section 5253, subsection 1, paragraph C. Municipal development
68 activities must not affect or be affected by limitations or
70 activities within the counties in which the zones are located.

72 **Sec. 6. 5 MRSA §15141, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 542, Pt. I,**
74 **§§3 and 6, is repealed.**

