

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2385

H.P. 1726

House of Representatives, March 1, 1990

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative BAILEY of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Representative PINES of Limestone, Senator PERKINS of Hancock and Representative MICHAUD of East Millinocket.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Establish the International Commerce Council.



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

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Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§6-B is enacted to read:

<u>6-B. Econo-</u>	<u>Inter-</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>5 MRSA</u>
<u>mic Development</u>	<u>national</u>	<u>Only for</u>	<u>§13106</u>
	<u>Commerce</u>	<u>Nonstate</u>	
	<u>Council</u>	<u>Employees</u>	

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §13055, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by PL 1989, c. 502, Pt. B, §73, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §13055, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 1989, c. 502, Pt. B, §73, is further amended to read:

E. The Office of Comprehensive Land Use Planning; and

Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §13055, sub-§1, ¶F is enacted to read:

F. The Office of International Commerce.

Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §13058, sub-§18 is enacted to read:

18. Development policy. The commissioner shall administer a program of development policy.

A. Administrators of the program shall ensure that economic and community development is conducted with thorough, accurate and timely economic information and with careful analysis in order to make maximum use of the limited resources available for development activities. Administrators of the program must have knowledge of economic trends, business activities within the State, patterns within the labor market, natural resource availability, infrastructure, buildings and sites for development and activities in major financial markets. This knowledge, which is necessary to make intelligent assessments with respect to targeting resources and assisting businesses, must be derived from collecting from sources in both the public and private sector information regarding the economy, businesses, labor force, buildings, business sites, infrastructure, natural resources and other elements that are necessary to market and program decisions.

B. Administrators of the program shall use all available information to make informed program and policy choices and provide the best possible information to businesses considering investment decisions in the State. The department shall enhance the delivery of services and the use of limited resources by the constant evaluation of program initiatives on the state, regional and local levels and by:

2 (1) Providing information, as requested, to business
4 clients, local and regional community and economic
6 development organizations and other state agencies
 regarding economic and business conditions;

8 (2) Conducting periodic evaluations of the
10 department's community and economic development
 programs to determine their effectiveness in meeting
 the stated goals of those programs; and

12 (3) Providing information and cooperating with the
14 State Planning Office in its macroeconomic forecasting
 activities that remain the responsibility of the State
16 Planning Office.

18 C. Administrators of the program shall maintain the ability
20 to develop demonstration program initiatives in response to
 a careful analysis of changing economic conditions that are
 a necessary element to complement evaluation and research
22 activities.

24 **Sec. 6. 5 MRSA sub-c. V is repealed.**

26 **Sec. 7. 5 MRSA sub-c. V-A is enacted to read:**

28 SUBCHAPTER V-A
 INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE

30 **§13105. Office of International Commerce; established**

32 The commissioner shall establish the Office of International
34 Commerce, referred to in this subchapter as the "office." The
36 office shall encourage the initiation, expansion and location of
 businesses in the State that generate revenues through
 participation in international commerce.

38 The office shall encourage international commerce growth by
40 removing barriers to developing export and import markets,
42 facilitating exploration of opportunities, providing technical
44 assistance to businesses developing international commerce
 markets, providing necessary assistance to enhance business
 consistent with the State's international commerce strategy and
 by coordinating existing state, federal and private international
46 commerce resources.

48 **§13106. Office of International Commerce**

50 The Deputy Commissioner for International Commerce shall
52 serve as the Director of the Office of International Commerce and
 administer the office in accordance with the policies of the
 commissioner and the provisions of this subchapter. The deputy

2 commissioner shall administer the program in a manner that
3 emphasizes a program of targeting international commerce
4 development designed to attract businesses that have
5 international potential for the State and that are determined to
6 be compatible with the State's environment and interests. The
7 office shall actively seek and encourage firms in the State to
8 engage in international commerce and shall actively seek and
9 encourage international firms to expand or locate in this State.
10 The office is responsible for the implementation of programs
11 designed to develop international markets for firms in the State
12 and to develop opportunities in the State for investment by
13 foreign firms. The office is responsible for the implementation
14 of a program consisting of 3 primary elements.

15 1. Coordination of international commerce efforts. The
16 office shall administer and staff a program to coordinate public
17 and private resources for international commerce. The
18 International Commerce Council, referred to in this subchapter as
19 "the council," is established in accordance with chapter 379, and
20 shall serve as an advisory council to the department concerning
21 the administration and implementation of this subchapter.

22 A. The International Commerce Council shall consist of 22
23 members as follows:

24 (1) The commissioners of the following departments or
25 their designees:

26 (a) The Department of Economic and Community
27 Development;

28 (b) The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural
29 Resources;

30 (c) The Department of Conservation;

31 (d) The Department of Marine Resources;

32 (e) The Department of Transportation;

33 (f) The Department of Labor; and

34 (g) The Department of Educational and Cultural
35 Services;

36 (2) The Director of the Maine Science and Technology
37 Commission or the director's designee;

38 (3) Representatives of:

39 (a) The United States Small Business
40 Administration;

2 (b) The United States Department of Commerce,
3 International Trade Administration;
4
5 (c) The University of Maine; and
6
7 (d) The University of Southern Maine, Office of
8 Global Enterprise; and
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10 (4) Ten representatives of private sector business
11 related to international commerce, to be appointed as
12 follows:
13
14 (a) Six members to be appointed by the Governor
15 to serve 3-year terms, except that 2 of the
16 initial appointees shall be appointed for terms of
17 2 years and 2 shall be appointed for terms of one
18 year; and
19
20 (b) Four members to be appointed jointly by the
21 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
22 House of Representatives to serve 3-year terms,
23 except that one of the initial appointees shall be
24 appointed for a term of 2 years and one shall be
25 appointed for a term of one year.
26
27 B. Members shall serve 3-year terms or until their
28 successors are appointed and qualified.
29
30 C. The department shall provide staff support to the
31 International Commerce Council. State agencies represented
32 on the council shall also provide assistance when requested.
33
34 D. The Governor shall designate the chair of the council.
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36 E. The council shall identify those standing committees and
37 ad hoc committees that are necessary to the council's
38 performance. Committees may include subject matter experts
39 who are not members of the council.
40
41 F. Public members are entitled to compensation in
42 accordance with the provisions of chapter 379.
43
44 G. The International Commerce Council shall be the nucleus
45 for a statewide network of representative industries and
46 institutions knowledgeable in international affairs and
47 shall advise the commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner of
48 the Office of International Commerce on implementation of
49 international policies and programs developed by the
50 department.

2 (1) The council shall serve as the coordinator of
4 information for state, federal and local agencies and
6 private sector organizations involved in international
8 commerce. As part of its coordination
 responsibilities, the council may identify ways to
 improve coordination on international commerce projects
 and opportunities to involve private sector
 organizations in developing industry regulations.

10 (2) The council shall oversee the international
12 commerce infrastructure to determine responsiveness,
14 adequacy and coordination of efforts to enhance
16 international competitiveness. The council shall
 identify, in cooperation with appropriate state
 agencies and other interested parties, the
 international commerce service needs throughout the
 State.

18 (3) The council shall assist in developing an annual
20 international commerce plan for the State that
22 describes the international commerce services and the
24 efforts by all public and private sector agencies and
 makes recommendations to the organizations identified
 with respect to strategies for international commerce
 activities.

26 2. Technical assistance and marketing support. The office
28 shall provide technical assistance and marketing support to
30 foster international commerce, including, but not limited to,
32 collection and dissemination of information and data, promotion
 of trade shows and trade missions, and assistance in resolving
 tariff issues.

34 3. Development of international commerce strategy. The
36 office shall develop the strategy for promotion of international
 commerce initiatives.

38 A. The office, in cooperation with the Office of Business
40 Development, shall conduct an analysis of the various
42 sectors of the economy and target businesses with potential
44 for international commerce and target segments of the
 economy with potential for international investment in this
 State. The types of businesses to be targeted must have
 potential for development in the State and contribute to a
 healthy business and environmental climate.

46 B. The office shall set priorities for international
48 commerce initiatives by identifying activities of target
50 countries and by coordinating existing resources to support
 priority projects.

2 C. The office shall provide leadership in educating the
3 private and public sector on the benefits of international
4 commerce initiatives and of attracting foreign investment in
5 the economy of this State.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill clarifies the enabling legislation for the Department of Economic and Community Development to reflect operational changes that have evolved since the creation of the department in 1987 and establishes the International Commerce Council.

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