

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 487

H.P. 357

House of Representatives, February 8, 1991

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARK of Brunswick.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act to Establish a Center for Nonprofit Development.

(EMERGENCY)

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

4
Whereas, funding opportunities for nonprofit organizations
6 arise daily; and

8
Whereas, state nonprofit organizations are at an immediate
disadvantage in applying for those funds, which would improve the
10 lives of citizens of this State; and

12
Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
14 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
16 safety; now, therefore,

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

20 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3513, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:**

22 1-A. Center. "Center" means the Center for Nonprofit
Development.

24
26 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §3514, as amended by PL 1985, c. 527, §3, is
further amended to read:**

28 **§3514. Division of Community Services**

30 ~~There is established, to carry out the purposes of this~~
chapter, the The Division of Community Services in is established
32 within the Executive Department, ~~which shall~~ to carry out the
responsibilities of State Government relating to planning and
34 financing community services and community action agencies and
described in this chapter. The division shall administer state
36 and federal community services' services programs and other block
grants that may be available, including, but not limited to,
38 energy assistance, energy conservation, food assistance and Head
Start. The division shall provide information, advocacy and
40 technical assistance services to state nonprofit organizations
through the Center for Nonprofit Development.

42
44 **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §3515, sub-§2, ¶¶H and I, as enacted by PL 1983,
c. 176, Pt. A, §3, are amended to read:**

46 H. Enter into contracts with any other state agency,
municipality, district, private corporation, copartnership,
48 association or individual for the purpose of providing
services relating to authorized programs of the division; and
50

2 I. Be informed about the perspectives and concerns of the
state's State's community action agencies and represent
4 their opinions to the Governor and other state officials;
and

6 Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §3515, sub-§2, ¶¶ is enacted to read:

8 J. Advise the Governor and other officials of State
10 Government on matters relating to the extent and nature of
nonprofit grant initiatives.

12 Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §3518-C is enacted to read:

14 §3518-C. Center for Nonprofit Development

16 1. Establishment. The Center for Nonprofit Development is
18 established within the Division of Community Services to
encourage, support and assist state nonprofit organizations in
20 their efforts to obtain fiscal and other resources.

22 2. Purpose and duties. The purpose of the Center for
Nonprofit Development is to assist state nonprofit organizations
24 to increase their knowledge of and ability to apply for financial
grants and other types of resources offered by public and private
26 sources, including, but not limited to, the Federal Government
and charitable foundations. Services provided by the center must
28 include:

30 A. Establishing and maintaining a statewide clearinghouse
for information regarding the availability of grants from
32 public and private sources. The center shall identify grant
opportunities from the widest possible range of sources and
34 make that information available in a timely manner to state
nonprofit organizations without preference or prejudice;

36 B. Facilitating grant applications and awards by
immediately identifying state applicants for funds as they
38 become available and providing research assistance to
nonprofit organizations regarding grants for which they are
40 eligible;

42 C. Providing technical assistance to nonprofit grant
applicants, upon request, in the following areas:

44 (1) The preparation and management of the grant
46 application process;

48 (2) The planning and preparation of program budgets;

50 (3) The development of the program's organizational
52 structure; and

2 (4) The development of appropriate linkages with other
3 agencies and organizations; and

4 D. Providing technical assistance to nonprofit grant
5 recipients, upon request, in complying with grant
6 requirements in the areas of:

8 (1) Management of funds, including financial
9 accounting and reporting assistance;

10 (2) Collection of data and record keeping; and

11 (3) Preparation and submission of required reports.

12
13
14 3. Director; staffing. The director is authorized to hire
15 a director for the Center for Nonprofit Development. The center
16 director must have nonprofit grant writing and management
17 experience. All other staffing and support must be provided by
18 existing staff within the division.

19
20 4. Director; duties. The director of the Center for
21 Nonprofit Development is responsible for:

22
23 A. Organizing data collection resources and services to
24 provide information to state nonprofit organizations;

25
26 B. Coordinating outreach services to funding sources for
27 the purpose of locating information about grant
28 opportunities and to state nonprofit organizations for the
29 purpose of encouraging grant applications;

30 C. Establishing and maintaining technical assistance
31 resources for nonprofit grant applicants and recipients;

32 D. Managing day-to-day operations of the center; and

33 E. Seeking outside funding for the center to establish a
34 public-private partnership for center operations.

35
36 5. Authority to accept funds. The director of the Center
37 for Nonprofit Development may accept grant funds from private or
38 public sources to be used to carry out the duties and purposes of
39 the center.

40
41 Sec. 6. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated
42 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.
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44
45
46

1991-92

1992-93

2

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

4

**Center for Nonprofit
Development**

6

8

Positions

(1.0)

(1.0)

Personal Services

\$29,888

\$43,716

10

12

14

16

Provides funds for one
Director position for the
Center for Nonprofit
Development within the
Division of Community
Services.

18

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

20

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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28

This bill establishes the Center for Nonprofit Development
within the Division of Community Services and specifies the
services it will provide to state nonprofit organizations in
their efforts to apply and qualify for nonstate resources.