

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 2450

S.P. 970

In Senate, March 26, 1992

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ESTES of York (GOVERNOR'S BILL).

Cosponsored by Representative NORTON of Winthrop, Representative AULT of Wayne and Representative O'GARA of Westbrook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, to Establish the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program.

(EMERGENCY)



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

Whereas, the Legislature finds that the standard of living,
the quality of life and the future well-being of the people of
the State depend upon improving our productivity and our
competitive position in the emerging world economy; and

Whereas, Maine employers today have openings for highly
skilled technicians that can not be filled because of lack of
skilled applicants; and

Whereas, Maine's economic future depends on a highly skilled
workforce, yet a majority of students graduating from our
secondary school system are not prepared to compete in a high
skills economy; and

Whereas, the rapid pace of change around the world and the
urgent demands of the current economic crisis require a
comprehensive and integrated strategy to move Maine toward
high-performance education for all students, a highly skilled
workforce at all levels and a high-productivity, high-quality
economy for all Maine citizens; and

Whereas, a youth apprenticeship model will better prepare
Maine children academically and technically for jobs in Maine,
involve employers in the learning experience and at the same time
help employers train the next generation of the workforce; and

Whereas, development of such a strategy requires planning
during the current school year; and

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

Sec. 1. Creation of the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program.
Resolved: That by October 1, 1992, the Department of Education,
the Department of Labor, selected school administrative units and
the Maine Technical College System shall develop a draft model
and pilot sites to establish the Maine Youth Apprenticeship
Program, which includes and uses Maine's secondary and
postsecondary vocational education systems and selected
businesses and industries.

2 The model must incorporate concepts in the Maine common core
4 of learning and a certificate of initial mastery based on an
6 understanding of expected student performance standards. The
8 Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program should be an integrated system
allowing students to attain skills for the workforce yet enhance
those skills through additional educational opportunities. The
model must provide for direct involvement by Maine's business
community and organized labor unions; and be if further

10 **Sec. 2. Work group. Resolved:** That the Governor shall
12 convene a working group consisting of the Commissioner of
14 Education, Associate Commissioner of Vocational Education,
16 Commissioner of Labor, Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards,
18 President of the Maine Technical College System, one additional
representative of the Maine Technical College System, one
representative of the University of Maine System and a member of
the State Board of Education; and be it further

20 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That on or before November 30, 1992
22 the Department of Education, on behalf of the working group,
24 shall file a report with the Governor and the joint standing
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education
matters.

26 The report must include, but not be limited to:

28 1. The criteria used to develop the Maine Youth
Apprenticeship Program draft model;

30 2. The criteria used in selecting the first pilot programs;

32 3. Proposed organizational and governance structure and
34 financial support for the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program,
including the role of the private sector and organized labor in
the program;

36 4. Proposed standards and expectations for students based
38 on the Maine common core of learning and leading to a
performance-based certificate of initial mastery; and

40 5. A plan to have the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program
42 fully operational in all of Maine's public high schools and
regional vocational centers by the 1996-97 school year.

44 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
46 preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

