

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1772,
L.D. 2454, Bill, "An Act to Provide Skills Training for
Unemployed Workers"

Amend the amendment by inserting after the title the
following:

'Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting
the following:

**'An Act to Provide Skills Training for Unemployed Workers and to
Promote Research and Development'**

Further amend the amendment in the first paragraph after the
title in the first line (page 1, line 16 in amendment) by
striking out the following: "Amend" and inserting in its place
the following: "Further amend"

Further amend the amendment by inserting after the first
paragraph after the title the following:

'Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§14 is repealed.'

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of sections
3 and 4 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 3. Use of funds for research and development programs.
Beginning in fiscal year 1992-93, the funds raised by the repeal
of the sales tax exemption on short-term publications provided in
this Act are dedicated for use by the University of Maine System
for research and development programs established in this Act.
Those funds do not lapse and carry forward from year to year to
carry out those research and development purposes.

Sec. 4. Use of funds for retraining programs. For fiscal years
1992-93 and 1993-94 the funds raised by the increase in the sales
tax from 6% to 7% on food sold in establishments not licensed for
the on-premises sale of liquor provided in this Act are dedicated
to fund Maine Technical College System programs to

2 provide skills training established in this Act for unemployed
workers. Beginning in fiscal year 1994-95 those funds must be
paid to the General Fund.

4
6 **Sec. 5. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

8 1992-93

10 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

12 **Biotechnology Programs**

14 All Other

\$1,000,000

16 Provides funds for research and development
18 initiatives in biotechnology at the
University of Maine and the University of
20 Southern Maine. At the University of Maine
biotechnology research is in the areas of
22 agriculture, natural resources, and the
environment focusing on commercially viable
24 species for Maine. At the University of
Southern Maine, research is in immunology
26 and molecular biology with a focus on the
medical sciences. These initiatives are
28 designed to enhance research efforts in
these areas and facilitate technology
30 transfer and the development of research and
training collaboratives between the
32 university and the private sector. The
centers would work closely with the Maine
34 Science and Technology Commission and the
Center for Innovation in Biomedical
36 Technology.

38 **Manufacturing Technology Programs**

40 All Other

\$1,000,000

42 Provides funds for initiatives designed to
strengthen the capacity of the University of
44 Maine and University of Southern Maine to
help Maine firms manage the process of
46 technology innovation. These initiatives
are designed to assist Maine firms in
48 adapting cutting-edge technologies and
manufacturing techniques to improve their
50 national and international competitive

2 positions and to assist in the establishment
of a regional technology transfer
4 consortium. The two campuses would work
closely with the Maine Science and
6 Technology Commission and the Center for
Technology Transfer.

8 **Economic Development Centers**

10 All Other \$500,000

12 Provides funds to coordinate and integrate
resources across all programs of the
14 University of Maine and the University of
Southern Maine related to economic
16 development. These resources would be used
to assist communities seeking innovative
18 strategies for economic growth and to
enhance the economic productivity and
20 adaptability of Maine business and
industry. Community-specific data bases and
22 community economic profiles will be
developed to assist communities in
24 identifying strategies for change.
University technical resources will be used
26 for on-site analyses and to identify
appropriate technologies to improve
28 production and new product development in
businesses and industry. Expanded degree
30 options will be made available to
undergraduate and graduate students, and
32 technical assistance provided to Maine
businesses, including enhanced foreign
34 language instruction.

36 **Rural Health Innovations**

38 All Other \$500,000

40 Provides funds to establish rural public
health and occupational health and safety
42 initiatives at the University of Southern
Maine focusing on methods of controlling
44 costs in the areas of workers' compensation
and environmental regulation. Funds will
46 also be used at the University of Maine for
recruitment and education of health care
48 professionals for rural areas with personnel
shortages, formulation of plans and policies
50 for delivery of health care services to

fiscal year 1992-93. The corresponding increase in State-Municipal Revenue Sharing will be \$397,437. For fiscal years 1992-93 and 1993-94 only, a portion of the additional sales tax revenue that accrues to the General Fund is dedicated to provide funding for skills training to unemployed citizens in the State. This \$4,394,759 of additional General Fund revenue is appropriated to the Maine Technical College System. The remaining funds are appropriated to the University of Maine System for research and development programs.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment repeals the tax exemption on short-term publications, dedicates the money raised by repeal of that exemption and appropriates money to the University of Maine System for research and development in the areas of biotechnology, manufacturing technology, economic development programs and rural health programs. The amendment also appropriates funds to the Maine Technical College System to provide skills training for unemployed workers.

Filed by Rep. Kontos of Windham
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House
3/27/92 (Filing No. H-1309)