

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 242

S.P. 88

In Senate, February 2, 1993

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Corrections to Develop a Plan for
the Employment of Correctional Facility Inmates.**

Reference to the Joint Select Committee on Corrections suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HANLEY of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative KUTASI of Bridgton and
Senators: BUTLAND of Cumberland, CARPENTER of York, KIEFFER of Aroostook,
SUMMERS of Cumberland, Representatives: BAILEY of Township 27, BARTH of Bethel,
BENNETT of Norway.

2 **Sec. 1. Commissioner to develop plan. Resolved:** That the
Commissioner of Corrections shall develop a plan for the
4 employment of adult inmates of all state correctional
facilities. The plan must specify ways in which inmates can be
6 engaged in meaningful work, regardless of their security needs.
The plan must address at least the following:

8 1. The feasibility of having inmates staff state toll-free
information numbers within correctional facilities, such as those
10 established to distribute tourism information;

12 2. The feasibility of expanding farm programs to increase
inmate participation at all state correctional facilities;

14 3. The range of other types of work that could be completed
16 inside and outside of correctional facilities;

18 4. Whether work should be mandatory, optional or a
privilege for inmates; and

20 5. The costs and benefits of any proposed work plan; and be
22 it further

24 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of
Corrections shall present the plan in a report, along with any
26 necessary legislation, to the committee having jurisdiction over
corrections matters by December 1, 1993. A copy of the report
28 must be sent to the Executive Director of the Legislative
Council; and be it further

30 **Sec. 3. Cooperation. Resolved:** That commissioners from all
32 other state departments shall assist the Commissioner of
Corrections in the preparation of the plan as requested.

36 STATEMENT OF FACT

38 The resolve directs the Commissioner of Corrections to
develop a plan for the employment of adult inmates in all state
40 correctional facilities and report to the Legislature by December
1, 1993. The commissioner is directed specifically to
42 investigate the feasibility of employing inmates to staff
toll-free information numbers from within the facilities. The
44 commissioner is also directed specifically to investigate the
feasibility of expanding the Department of Corrections' farm
46 program.