

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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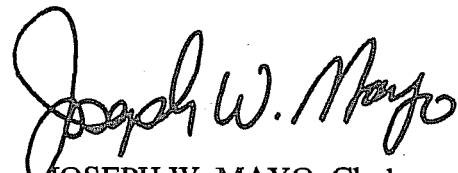
H.P. 194

House of Representatives, February 2, 1993

**An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Task Force on Defense
Realignment and the Economy.**

(EMERGENCY)

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative KONTOS of Windham.
Cosponsored by Representative: SMALL of Bath, Senators: KIEFFER of Aroostook,
LAWRENCE of York.

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

Whereas, the Task Force on Defense Realignment and the Economy was established to develop, implement and coordinate long-term strategies for economic growth in order to achieve and maintain economic prosperity into the 21st century; and

Whereas, this Act provides for additional time to ensure that the goals of the task force are met and allows for closer monitoring of federal funds; and

Whereas, in order to provide maximum benefit to the State's economy, these programs and activities need to be initiated before the expiration of the 90-day period; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3307-E, sub-§4, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 854, Pt. B, §1, is amended to read:

4. Duties. The task force shall perform the following duties:

A. Prepare a statewide strategy and implementation plan to assist the State and its defense-dependent industries, workers and communities to reduce defense dependency by shifting from military to civilian enterprises while retaining a stable industrial and commercial base, high employment and wages and diverse state, regional and local economies. A strategic plan and recommendations for implementation must be submitted to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters by July 1, 1992 1993. The report must be updated annually and as otherwise requested by the joint standing committee. The strategic plan must include:

(1) Determination of how firms in the State will be affected by the reduction of output by prime contractors and bases, how defense realignment will affect local and state government services and the

- 2 adequacy and effectiveness of existing federal, state
 and local dislocation response capacity;
- 4 (2) Assessment of the current capacity of at-risk
6 businesses and workers to reduce their defense
 dependency;
- 8 (3) Identification of sources of assistance for local
10 and regional planning efforts, including coordination
 of local and regional efforts;
- 12 (4) Development of a comprehensive strategy for
14 reducing the State's defense capacity, including
16 identification of steps required to: encourage, assist
18 and strengthen local development capacity in at-risk
20 regions; help diversify the reemployment base; enhance
 reemployability of workers; broaden the markets of
 defense-dependent firms; and anticipate and mitigate
 impacts on communities associated with defense-spending
 reductions; and
- 22 (5) Identification of barriers to the effective
24 implementation of the plan and recommendation of
 actions to remove these barriers;
- 26 B. Prepare and submit legislation by October 1, 1992 1993
 and as necessary thereafter that:
- 28 (1) Identifies how state agencies will assist the
30 regions in achieving their objectives;
- 32 (2) Provides for adequate incentives and resources to
34 implement state, regional and industry strategic plans;
 and
- 36 (3) Provides for adjustment assistance for communities
38 and workers while the economy adjusts to reductions in
 defense spending;
- 40 C. Coordinate funding, technical assistance and other
42 support to defense-dependent regional and industry planning
44 committees to help various regions of the State develop and
 implement economic conversion and diversification goals,
 objectives and strategies; and
- 46 D. Coordinate state efforts toward the adoption of federal
48 legislation and policies that support economic conversion
50 and diversification planning, commercial industries, market
 opportunities and global competitiveness; and

