



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 361

H.P. 297

House of Representatives, January 23, 1997

An Act to Encourage Regionalization of Municipal Services.

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

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GAGNON of Waterville. Cosponsored by Senator CAREY of Kennebec and Representatives: O'NEIL of Saco, ROWE of Portland, TESSIER of Fairfield, Senators: DAGGETT of Kennebec, MILLS of Somerset.

	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3305, sub-§1, ¶¶N and O, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 625, Pt. A, §10, are amended to read:
4	1995, C. 025, PL. A, SIU, ale amended to read:
6	N. Coordinate the development of solid waste management policy including:
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10	(1) Collecting and analyzing solid waste management and recycling data from all available sources including commercial and municipal entities;
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14	(2) Preparing a solid waste management and recycling plan to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature every 2 years; and
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18	(3) Providing technical and financial assistance to municipalities in waste reduction and recycling activities; and
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22	O. Own, design, develop or operate, or contract with private parties to operate, a solid waste disposal facility,
24	as provided in Title 38, chapter 24, subchapter IV_{τ} ; and
	Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §3305, sub-§1, ¶P is enacted to read:
26	P. Establish and maintain a grant program to enable
28	municipalities to study and develop programs to deliver
	municipal services on a regional basis when such
30	<u>regionalization is likely to result in improved or more efficient services.</u>
32	<u>erretent services.</u>
	(1) Application for the grant must be made by 2 or
34	<u>more municipalities, one of which must be a service</u> <u>center community as designated by the office in its</u>
36	<u>1996 report entitled "The Costs and Impacts of</u> <u>Development Patterns in Maine."</u>
38	
40	(2) Application must be made on forms developed by the office and must include at least the following
42	<u>information: the service being considered for</u> regionalization; a summary of how regionalization is
	expected to improve efficiency or improve the service;
44	<u>and information necessary to demonstrate that</u> <u>improvement is likely.</u>
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48	(3) Municipalities approved for grants shall fund at least 20% of the cost of the program to which the grant
50	will be applied.
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(4) In awarding grants, the office shall seek to coordinate grants under this program with other grant and assistance programs offered by the office and shall give priority to communities designated as principal service center communities.
Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

12 EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

14 State Planning Office

16 All Other

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22

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\$100,000

 18 To fund grants to municipalities to study and develop regional service delivery
20 programs.

SUMMARY

This bill creates a grant program to assist municipalities in planning for regional service delivery to improve the quality or efficiency of municipal services. The grants are directed at communities described as "service center communities" in a 1996 report of the State Planning Office and are to be coordinated with other grant and assistance programs of the State Planning Office. One hundred thousand dollars are appropriated from the General Fund to provide the grants.

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