

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 630

H.P. 467

House of Representatives, January 26, 1999

An Act to Establish the Maine Communities in the New Century Program.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker ROWE of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and
Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, BUMPS of China, MARTIN of Eagle Lake,
TOWNSEND of Portland, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot,
LAWRENCE of York, SMALL of Sagadahoc.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §558 is enacted to read:**

6 **§558. Maine Communities in the New Century Program**

8 **1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.**

10 **A. "Council" means the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council.**

12 **B. "Participating agencies" means the:**

14 **(1) Maine Arts Commission;**

16 **(2) Maine Historic Preservation Commission;**

18 **(3) Maine State Library;**

20 **(4) Maine State Museum;**

22 **(5) Maine Historical Society;**

24 **(6) Maine State Archives; and**

26 **(7) Maine Humanities Council.**

28 **C. "Program" means the Maine Communities in the New Century Program established in subsection 2.**

30 **2. Program established; objectives. The Maine Communities in the New Century Program is established under the auspices of the council to further the following objectives:**

32 **A. Preservation of the State's historic resources, properties, artifacts and documents;**

34 **B. Expanded access to improved educational resources; and**

36 **C. Community and economic development through strengthened local cultural resources.**

38 **3. Program components. To assist communities in preserving, improving and providing access to cultural resources, the program shall provide matching grants, technical assistance and support services to local, nonprofit, community-based organizations.**

40 **4. Council duties. The council shall:**

- 2 A. Oversee the planning, implementation and coordinated
4 communication among the participating agencies on behalf of
 Maine communities;
- 6 B. Establish an outside evaluation system for the project
8 to be implemented in the 2nd year of the program;
- 10 C. Provide a forum of interagency planning among the
 participating agencies;
- 12 D. Receive and distribute notices and instructions from
14 other governmental administrative agencies;
- 16 E. Meet quarterly to assess the progress of the program;
- 18 F. Coordinate the program with a statewide cultural
20 alliance organization that is a private nonprofit
22 educational agency supporting libraries, museums and arts
 and humanities organizations and with statewide groups of
 individuals and artists concerned about the health of the
 State's cultural resources; and
- 24 G. Submit an annual report to the Legislature on the
26 program.

28 5. Participating agency duties. The participating agencies
shall:

- 30 A. Provide matching grants and services to eligible
32 nonprofit and community-based organizations;
- 34 B. Participate in coordinated efforts of the council; and
- 36 C. Provide appropriate information for the annual report to
 the Legislature.

38 **Sec. 2. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
40 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1999-00	2000-01
MAINE ARTS COMMISSION		
Arts - Administration		
All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
Maine Humanities Council		

2	All Other	550,000	550,000
4	MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION		
6	Historic Preservation Commission		
8	All Other	575,000	575,000
10	MAINE STATE LIBRARY		
12	Administration - Library		
14	All Other	1,500,000	1,500,000
16	MAINE STATE MUSEUM		
18	Administration - Museum		
20	All Other	170,000	170,000
22	MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY		
24	Historical Society		
26	All Other	250,000	250,000
28	SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF THE		
30	Administration - Archives		
32	All Other	100,000	100,000
34			
36	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	<u>\$3,645,000</u>	<u>\$3,645,000</u>

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SUMMARY

42 This bill establishes the Maine Communities in the New
 44 Century Program to preserve, revitalize and improve the State's
 46 cultural resources in order to provide the State's citizens
 48 with: preservation of the character and quality of life of the
 50 State, improved educational resources and access to them; and
 expanded community and economic development opportunities. The
 program falls under the auspices of and will be monitored and
 evaluated by the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council, a
 legislatively mandated entity that coordinates the needs of the
 State's public cultural resources. The participating agencies in

2 the program are the Maine Arts Commission, the Maine Historic
Preservation Commission, the Maine State Library, the Maine State
4 Museum, the Maine Historical Society, the Maine State Archives
and the Maine Humanities Council. The program will provide
6 matching grants, technical assistance and other services to
local, nonprofit, community-based organizations. It also
contains an appropriations section.