



120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 997

S.P. 286

In Senate, February 20, 2001

Resolve, to Enhance Economic Development in Eastern Maine.

(EMERGENCY)

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

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock. Cosponsored by Representative POVICH of Ellsworth and Senators: MITCHELL of Penobscot, SAWYER of Penobscot, SHOREY of Washington, YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot, Representative: DUGAY of Cherryfield. **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts and resolves of the 2 Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State acknowledges the need to focus 6 significant resources in eastern Maine for economic development; and

Whereas, efforts to increase the number of available quality jobs in the region have begun to succeed, but other factors, such as worker preparedness, are limiting workforce development in Penobscot, Hancock and Washington counties; and

14 Whereas, efforts are underway in the area of worker education and training, yet certain other issues such as health 16 and social issues have not been similarly addressed; and

18 Whereas, illegal drug use in this region is a significant component of health and social issues and the need to reduce the prevalence of those drugs in the region is urgent; and

Whereas, this resolve establishes the Commission to Promote Workforce Development in Eastern Maine, which must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the commission can begin its work in a timely manner and its report can be submitted in time for submission to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature; and

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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

PART A

Sec. A-1. Commission to Promote Workforce Development in Eastern Maine established. Resolved: That the Commission to Promote Workforce Development in Eastern Maine, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

- 42 Sec. A-2. Commission membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of the following 16 members:
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The Director of the Office of Substance Abuse, or the
 director's designee;

The Director of the Bureau of Health, or the director's
 designee;

 The United States Attorney representing the District of Maine, or the United States Attorney's designee;

4. The Director of the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, or8 the director's designee;

10 5. One member representing an economic development organization in each of the following counties: Penobscot,
 12 Hancock and Washington, appointed by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development;

6. One member representing Eastern Maine Medical Center,
 appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Medical Services;

18 7. One member representing the Maine Medical Association appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Medical Services; 20

 8. One member representing the Maine State Nurses
 22 Association, appointed by the Director of the Bureau of Medical Services;

 Three members of the Senate, appointed by the President
 of the Senate, who represent each of the following counties: Penobscot, Hancock and Washington; and

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Three members of the House of Representatives,
 appointed by the Speaker of the House, who represent each of the following counties: Penobscot, Hancock and Washington; and be it
 further

Sec. A-3. Appointments. Resolved: That all appointments must 34 be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of 36 this resolve. The first named Senate member and the first named House member serve as cochairs of the commission. The appointing 38 authorities shall notify the Executive Director of theLegislative Council upon making their appointments. The cochairs 40 shall convene the first meeting of the commission no later than 30 days after the appointment of all members is complete; and be it further 42

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Sec. A-4. Duties. Resolved: That the responsibilities of the commission include the following:

 To identify health and social impediments to workforce
 development in eastern Maine, based on recent work of state and federal agencies and other development groups and social service
 agencies in the region; 2. To propose a plan to reduce or eliminate health and social impediments, including identification of impaired workers
 4 or potential impaired workers;

3. To propose options for treatment for the impaired workers or the potentially impaired workers to help those workers
become productive members of the workforce; and

4. To recommend law enforcement measures to reduce the volume of illegal drugs and measures to control diverted
 prescription drugs used illegally in the region of eastern Maine; and be it further

Sec. A-5. Staff assistance. Resolved: That, upon the approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further

20 Sec. A-6. Compensation. Resolved: That the members of the commission who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, 22 section 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for 24 their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Other members of the commission who are not otherwise compensated by 26 their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred for their attendance at authorized meetings; and be it further 28

30 Sec. A-7. Report. Resolved: That the commission shall submit its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation, 32 to the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development no later than March 1, 2002. The committee may 34 introduce a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature. If the commission requires a limited extension of 36 time to conclude its work, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

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PART B

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- Sec. B-1. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.
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2001-02

- PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF
 - Maine Drug Enforcement Agency
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\$1,520,000

All Other

Provides funds for 10 additional Maine Drug Enforcement Agency positions in Bangor, 5 such positions in Hancock County and 5 such positions in Washington County at \$70,000 per position and \$5,500 for one-time costs per agent for equipment.

10 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

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SUMMARY

16 This resolve establishes the Commission to Promote Workforce Development in Eastern Maine. It also establishes and funds 20 new positions within the Department of Public Safety, Maine Drug Enforcement Agency in eastern Maine to reduce the prevalence of 20 illegal drug activity.