

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1827

H.P. 1370

House of Representatives, June 8, 2001

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community
Development to Study the Designation of Tourism Regions.**

Reported by Representative RICHARDSON for the Joint Standing Committee on Business
and Economic Development pursuant to Joint Order 2001, H.P. 1301.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

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

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6 **Whereas,** the 8 tourism regions that have been designated by
the tourism industry to promote tourism in the State may not
adequately reflect the unique economic and cultural differences
of certain areas of the State; and

10 **Whereas,** these unique areas of the State, such as the St.
John Valley, the Downeast region and the so-called "River
Valley," may benefit economically from an industry designation as
a tourism region; and

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16 **Whereas,** the establishment of a dedicated source of revenue
to fund the Office of Tourism within the Department of Economic
and Community Development would provide substantial additional
funds to the office to distribute annually to organizations
within the tourism regions to assist with the tourism promotion
efforts of their respective regions; and

22 **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

28 **Sec. 1. Department of Economic and Community Development**
directed to study the designation of tourism regions. Resolved: That the
30 Department of Economic and Community Development shall study
expanding the number of industry-designated tourism regions in
32 the State to reflect the unique cultural attributes and economic
needs of various areas of the State. In studying the current
34 tourism region designations, the department shall consult with
representatives of the tourism industry. The department shall
36 report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing
Committee on Business and Economic Development before December
38 31, 2001.

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

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FISCAL NOTE

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48 The additional costs associated with conducting a certain
study can be absorbed by the Department of Economic and Community
Development utilizing existing budgeted resources.

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SUMMARY

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This resolve, which is submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development pursuant to Joint Order 2001, H.P. 1301, directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to study the industry-designated tourism regions in the State to reflect the unique cultural attributes and economic needs of certain areas. The department is required to consult with the tourism industry in conducting its study and to report its findings and recommendations to the committee before December 31, 2001.