

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 347

S.P. 109

In Senate, January 20, 2005

An Act To Rename the Jobs for Maine's Graduates Program To Create InspireME

(EMERGENCY)

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senators: MARTIN of Aroostook, MITCHELL of Kennebec, RAYE of
Washington, WESTON of Waldo, Representatives: CUMMINGS of Portland, McKANE of
Newcastle, PINGREE of North Haven, TARDY of Newport.

2 **2. High-quality jobs.** Render -9- a minimum of 12 months of
intensive assistance and follow-up activities services beyond
4 high school graduation to assure ensure student placement in
quality high-quality jobs with ample career opportunities;

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8 **3. Postsecondary education.** Encourage students to pursue
postsecondary education by-assisting and assist them in securing
appropriate part-time work to accompany that education;

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12 **4. Lifelong learning.** Encourage lifelong learning by
introducing students to the importance of skills training and
14 demonstrating how learning is relevant to skills necessary in the
workplace;

16 ~~**5. Youth apprenticeship.** Assist schools and private sector~~
~~corporations in the development of youth apprenticeship systems~~
18 ~~to connect more closely schools and the workplace; and~~

20 **6. Other.** Engage in other activities designed authorized
by its board of directors and consistent with this chapter.;

22 **7. Service learning.** Encourage learning by implementing
24 community-based service learning projects;

26 **8. Coordination of services.** Assist schools, nonprofit
entities state agencies and private sector corporations in the
28 participation of youth development systems to connect more
closely with schools and the workplace; and

30 **9. Research.** Provide for research on students' needs and
32 effective interventions for their education, their career
preparation and their successful transition to adult roles.

34 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRS §6903, first ¶.** as enacted by PL 1993, c.
36 348, §1, is amended to read:

38 The Board of Directors of ~~Jobs--for--Maine's--Graduates~~
InspireME consists of 17 private sector directors representing
40 private businesses and labor organizations in the State; 14
public sector directors, representing public or quasi-public
42 educational entities; and 2 nonvoting ex officio directors,
representing the Commissioner of Labor and the Commissioner of
44 Education. The membership of the board must be representative of
geographic diversity and gender balance. Each voting director is
46 entitled to one vote. In addition, the executive director shall
attend and participate in board meetings but is not entitled to a
48 vote.

2 **Sec. 5. 20-A MRSA §6903, sub-§§2 and 4**, as enacted by PL 1993,
c. 348, §1, are amended to read:

4 **2. Executive director.** The board of directors shall
appoint the Executive Director of ~~Jobs--for-Maine's--Graduates~~
6 InspireME, who is a nonvoting member of the board of directors.
The executive director may not be appointed from among the other
8 directors. The executive director serves as the director of the
corporation and may be removed by the board for cause.

10 **4. Meetings; quorum.** The board of directors shall meet at
12 least twice a year at the call of the chair to conduct its
business and elect its officers. Additional meetings may be held
14 as necessary to conduct the business of the board of directors
and may be convened at the call of the chair or a majority of the
16 board members. ~~Sixteen members of the~~ A simple majority of the
current membership of the board ~~constitute~~ constitutes a quorum
18 for all purposes.

20 **Sec. 6. 20-A MRSA §6904, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
348, §1, is amended to read:

22 ~~Jobs-for-Maine's-Graduates~~ The corporation is empowered to:

24 **Sec. 7. 20-A MRSA §6904, sub-§3.** as enacted by PL 1993, c.
26 348, §1, is amended to read:

28 **3. Educational and school-to-career transition services;**
fees. Provide services to public or private entities to assist
30 in job training and education efforts in the development of
~~school-to-work~~ school-to-career transition services in the State
32 and to charge fees for those services as it determines
appropriate.

34 **Sec. 8. 20-A MRSA §6904, sub-§10.** as enacted by PL 1993, c.
36 348, §1 and amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 and affected by
§4, is further amended to read:

38 **10. Cooperation with agencies and organizations.** Cooperate
40 with governmental agencies, the University of Maine System and
the Maine Community College System; and cooperate, assist and
42 otherwise encourage organizations, local or regional, private or
public, in the communities of the State in the promotion,
44 assistance and development of ~~school-to-work~~ school-to-career
transition systems, ~~youth apprenticeship and job training systems~~
46 ~~in communities and the State.~~

48 **Sec. 9. 20-A MRSA §6908**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 348, §1,
is amended to read:

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§6908. Prohibited interests of officers, directors and employees

Officers, directors or employees of the corporation or their spouses or dependent children may not receive any direct personal benefit from the activities of the corporation in assisting any private entity. This provision does not prohibit corporations or other entities with which an officer or director is associated by reasons of ownership or employment from participating in ~~school-to-work~~ school-to-career transition activities of the corporation, ~~provided that if~~ the ownership or employment is made known to the board of directors and, if applicable, the officer or director abstains from voting on matters relating to that participation.

Sec. 10. 20-A MRSA §6909. as enacted by PL 1993, c. 348, §1, is amended to read:

§6909. Donations to the State

The State, through the Office of the Governor, may accept donations, bequests, devises, grants or other interests of any nature on behalf of ~~Jobs-for-Maine's-Graduates~~ the corporation and transfer those funds, property or other interests to the corporation.

Sec. 11. 20-A MRSA §6911, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 348, §1, is amended to read:

The ~~Jobs-for-Maine's-Graduates~~ corporation shall operate as a nonprofit organization consistent with its composition and broad public purposes. The following conditions apply to the operation or dissolution of the corporation.

Sec. 12. 20-A MRSA §6912. as enacted by PL 1993, c. 348, §1, is amended to read:

§6912. Liberal construction

This chapter may be construed liberally to effect the interest and purpose of the corporation for an improved and expanded ~~school-to-work~~ school-to-career and skills training system in the State and may be broadly interpreted to effect the corporation's intent and purpose and not as a limitation of powers.

Sec. 13. Transition provisions. The following provisions govern the transition of Jobs for Maine's Graduates to InspireME.

1. InspireME is the successor in every way to the powers, duties and functions of the former Jobs for Maine's Graduates.

2 2. All existing bylaws of Jobs for Maine's Graduates in
effect are hereby declared in effect and continue in effect until
4 rescinded, revised or amended by InspireME.

6 3. All existing contracts, agreements and compacts
currently in effect to which Jobs for Maine's Graduates is a
8 party continue in effect.

10 4. All members on the Board of Directors of Jobs for
Maine's Graduates continue as members on the Board of Directors
12 of InspireME in the positions they currently occupy for the terms
to which they were originally appointed.

14 5. All records, property and equipment previously belonging
16 to or allocated for the use of the former Jobs for Maine's
Graduates become, on the effective date of this Act, part of the
18 property of InspireME.

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

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SUMMARY

26 This bill changes the name of the Jobs for Maine's Graduates
program to InspireME to better reflect its mission and impact.
28 The bill also makes minor changes to the purpose and structure of
the program.