

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4-12-06

Reported by: Majority

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**Business, Research and Economic Development**

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**STATE OF MAINE**

**SENATE**

**122ND LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 743, L.D. 1944, Bill, "An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Washington County Economic Development Task Force"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

**Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5250-I, sub-§7-A** is enacted to read:

**7-A. Experiential tourism.** "Experiential tourism" means tourism that allows individuals to be active participants in outdoor recreational activities including but not limited to: hiking, camping, birding and other wildlife viewing, nature photography, visits to historical and cultural sights and museums, nature tourism, adventure tourism and ecotourism.

**Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §5250-J, sub-§1, ¶D**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 451, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

D. Washington County and the Downeast region including 2 pilot projects to be established by the commissioner:

(1) A pilot project for the property of the former Cutler naval computer and telecommunications station, which may be excluded from the qualified business definitions established under section 5250-I, subsections 16 and 17 if a for-profit business is engaged in, or will engage in, tourism development including recreational tourism, experiential tourism, hotel development and resort facility development; and

(2) A pilot project that allows seasonal employees in seasonal industries based on natural resources to be considered qualified Pine Tree Development Zone employees for the purposes of section 5250-I, subsection 18; and

**Sec. 3. Pilot projects in Washington County.** The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall report by February 15, 2008 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters and the joint

R. 019

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 743, L.D. 1944

1 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and  
2 economic development matters on the progress of the 2 pilot Pine Tree Development  
3 Zone projects in Washington County, established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes,  
4 Title 30-A, section 5250-J, subsection 1, paragraph D, including any proposed changes to  
5 the pilot projects. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction  
6 over business, research and economic development matters may report out legislation on  
7 the Washington County pilot projects to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd  
8 Legislature.

9 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
10 allocations are made.

11 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

12 **Downeast Heritage Museum NEW**

13 Initiative: Provides funding for the operational support of the Downeast Heritage  
14 Museum in Calais through the 2010-2011 biennium.

15			
16	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
17	All Other	\$0	\$300,000
18			
19	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$300,000

20 **Incubator Without Walls NEW**

21 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for the Incubator Without Walls entrepreneurial  
22 workshops in Washington County.

23			
24	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
25	All Other	\$0	\$100,000
26			
27	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$100,000

28 **Administration - Economic and Community Development 0069**

29 Initiative: Provides \$500,000 in one-time funds to the endowment of the Sunrise County  
30 Economic Council and an additional \$100,000 in one-time funds for the operations of the  
31 council.

32			
33	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
34	All Other	\$0	\$600,000
35			
36	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$600,000

37 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT,**  
38 **DEPARTMENT OF**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 743, L.D. 1944

RSS

1	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>
2			
3	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
4			
5	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

6

7

**SUMMARY**

8 This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It allows the Commissioner  
9 of Economic and Community Development to establish 2 pilot Pine Tree Development  
10 Zone projects in Washington County that would allow seasonal employees in seasonal  
11 industries based on natural resources in Washington County to be considered full-time  
12 employees for the purposes of the Pine Tree Development Zone laws and would waive  
13 the qualifying business requirements for the property of the former Cutler naval computer  
14 and telecommunications station, if a for-profit business is engaged in, or will engage in,  
15 tourism development including recreational tourism, experiential tourism, hotel  
16 development and resort facility development. It also provides a definition for  
17 "experiential tourism." This amendment also requires the Commissioner of Economic  
18 and Community Development to report by February 15, 2008 to the joint standing  
19 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters and the joint  
20 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and  
21 economic development matters on the progress of the 2 pilot projects, including any  
22 proposed changes to the pilot projects. It authorizes the joint standing committee of the  
23 Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and economic development  
24 matters to report out legislation on the Washington County pilot projects to the Second  
25 Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

26 This amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

27

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

28

(See attached)



# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1944

LR 2900(02)

## An Act to Implement Certain Recommendations of the Washington County Economic Development Task Force

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Business, Research and Economic Development

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Majority Report

### Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Undetermined current biennium revenue decrease - General Fund

	2005-06	2006-07	Projections 2007-08	Projections 2008-09
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$400,000	\$400,000
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$400,000	\$400,000

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes General Fund appropriations totaling \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 to the Department of Economic and Community Development. Of this amount, \$300,000 is provided annually through the 2010-2011 biennium for the operational support of the Downeast Heritage Museum in Calais; \$100,000 per year is appropriated for the Incubator without Walls entrepreneurial workshops in Washington County and \$600,000 in one-time funds is provided for the Sunrise County Economic Council.

This bill will result in a revenue loss beginning in fiscal year 2006-07 if the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development establishes the pilot projects authorized in this legislation. The amount will depend on the actual amount of Pine Tree Zone tax benefits received and can not be determined at this time.