

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 1064

H.P. 782

House of Representatives, March 6, 2007

### **An Act To Increase Funding To Support Research and Development in the University of Maine System**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by Senator TURNER of Cumberland and  
Representatives: BEAUDETTE of Biddeford, CAIN of Orono, FISCHER of Presque Isle,  
PINGREE of North Haven, SMITH of Monmouth, TARDY of Newport, Senators: MARTIN  
of Aroostook, MITCHELL of Kennebec.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1666**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 601, §4, is further amended by  
3 enacting a new 4th paragraph to read:

4 Beginning for fiscal year 2008-09, a budget document transmitted by the Governor or  
5 Governor-elect must include a funding level recommendation for research and  
6 development at the University of Maine System through the Maine Economic  
7 Improvement Fund established in Title 10, chapter 107-C. The funding level  
8 recommendation for fiscal year 2008-09 must be an amount not less than 1% of the total  
9 actual General Fund revenue for fiscal year 2007-08, and for each subsequent fiscal year  
10 the percentage of the prior year's General Fund revenue that determines the funding level  
11 recommendation must increase by an amount not less than two tenths of 1% so that the  
12 funding level recommendation for fiscal year 2018-19 must equal not less than 3% of the  
13 General Fund revenues for fiscal year 2017-18. For a fiscal year subsequent to fiscal year  
14 2017-18, a funding level recommendation required under this paragraph must be an  
15 amount not less than 3% of the General Fund revenues for the previous fiscal year. If a  
16 budget document transmitted by the Governor or Governor-elect contains a funding level  
17 recommendation for such research and development is less than the amount required by  
18 this paragraph, the Governor or Governor-elect shall simultaneously with the  
19 transmission of the budget document submit a report explaining the funding difference to  
20 the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations  
21 and financial affairs matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
22 jurisdiction over research and development matters.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires the Governor or Governor-elect to include in the budget submitted  
25 to the Legislature beginning in fiscal year 2008-09 a funding level recommendation for  
26 research and development for the University of Maine System through the Maine  
27 Economic Improvement Fund that equals at least 1% of the previous year's General Fund  
28 revenue and to increase the amount of the previous General Fund revenue each fiscal year  
29 by two tenths of 1% so that the funding level recommendation for fiscal year 2018-19 and  
30 beyond will equal at least 3% of the General Fund revenues for the previous fiscal year.  
31 If the Governor or Governor-elect recommends less than these amounts, then the  
32 Governor must submit a report explaining the funding difference to the joint standing  
33 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs  
34 matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
35 research and development matters.