

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 469

S.P. 172

In Senate, February 10, 2009

An Act To Strengthen Rural Community Investment

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RAYE of Washington.
Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Monmouth and
Senators: RECTOR of Knox, SCHNEIDER of Penobscot, Representatives: BROWNE of
Vassalboro, Speaker PINGREE of North Haven, PIOTTI of Unity, SAVIELLO of Wilton,
SCHATZ of Blue Hill, TILTON of Harrington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Strengthen rural development.** Maine Rural Partners, a nonprofit
3 organization that is Maine's federally recognized state rural development council, shall:

4 1. Complete pilot projects underway in the Town of Strong and Washington County
5 to build innovative strategic plans and to create community investment mechanisms;

6 2. Prepare an analysis of the potential for attracting and leveraging investment in
7 rural Maine communities; and

8 3. Make recommendations to the Legislature and Governor regarding methods of
9 encouraging such investment.

10 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
11 allocations are made.

12 **MAINE RURAL PARTNERS (NEW)**

13 **Maine Rural Partners (NEW)**

14 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to match federal and private resources to be used to
15 support Maine Rural Partners in carrying out its mission of strengthening rural
16 community capacity and exploring innovative community investment mechanisms.

17

18 GENERAL FUND	2009-10	2010-11
19 All Other	\$150,000	\$150,000
20		
21 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill requires Maine Rural Partners to:

24 1. Complete pilot projects underway in the Town of Strong and Washington County
25 to build innovative strategic plans and to create community investment mechanisms;

26 2. Prepare an analysis of the potential for attracting and leveraging investment in
27 rural Maine communities; and

28 3. Make recommendations to the Legislature and Governor regarding methods of
29 encouraging such investment.