

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 959

H.P. 661

House of Representatives, March 10, 2009

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Maine Economic Improvement Fund

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative TILTON of Harrington.
Cosponsored by Senator RAYE of Washington and
Representatives: BURNS of Whiting, LANGLEY of Ellsworth, MARTIN of Eagle Lake,
McCABE of Skowhegan, McFADDEN of Dennysville, PRESCOTT of Topsham, Senators:
GOOLEY of Franklin, SHERMAN of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §947, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

3 **2-A. Rural campuses.** "Rural campuses" means the University of Maine System
4 campuses located in Augusta, Farmington, Fort Kent, Machias and Presque Isle.

5 **Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §948, sub-§1, ¶F,** as amended by PL 1999, c. 401, Pt. AAA,
6 §5, is further amended to read:

7 F. Providing an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1st of
8 each regular session of the Legislature setting forth:

9 (1) The operations of the fund during the fiscal year;

10 (2) The assets and liabilities of the fund at the end of its most recent fiscal year;
11 and

12 (3) The annual measurable goals and objectives of the fund, as established by the
13 board, and an assessment of the achievement of those goals and objectives. The
14 goals and objectives must include, but may not be limited to, education, research
15 and development; ~~and.~~

16 The annual report must clearly delineate the total amount contained in the fund at the
17 end of its most recent fiscal year and must set forth the amounts and purposes of all
18 expenditures from the fund during the fiscal year; and

19 **Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §948, sub-§2** is enacted to read:

20 **2. Rural allotment.** The Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System shall
21 set aside annually an amount equalling 3% of the total amount to be expended for
22 research and development and product innovation in target areas to be distributed equally
23 among those rural campuses that are able to demonstrate efforts in research and
24 development in target areas in the previous year. For purposes of this subsection, efforts
25 in research and development in target areas may be demonstrated through the budgeting
26 of funds for positions or programs dedicated to research and development in target areas.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill requires the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to set
29 aside annually 3% of the total amount to be expended from the Maine Economic
30 Improvement Fund for research and development and product innovation in target areas
31 and to distribute that amount equally among those rural campuses of the University of
32 Maine System that are able to demonstrate efforts in research and development in target
33 areas in the previous year.