

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SMEY
ROFFS

L.D. 1885

Date: 4-11-12

(Filing No. S- 548)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1393, L.D. 1885, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund"

Amend the amendment by inserting after section 3 the following:

Sec. 4. Task force established. The Maine Economic Improvement Fund Task Force, referred to in this section as "the task force," is established to review the Maine Economic Improvement Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund" and recommend any changes necessary to enhance investment in targeted research and development and product innovation and to provide basic investment necessary to obtain matching funds and competitive grants from private and federal sources.

1. Membership. The task force consists of 6 members as follows:

A. One representative of the University of Maine, appointed by the President of the Senate;

B. One representative of the University of Southern Maine, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

C. A representative of one of the public university campuses listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 948, subsection 1, paragraph H, appointed by the President of the Senate;

D. A representative of one of the public university campuses listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 948, subsection 1, paragraph H, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

E. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the chancellor's designee; and

F. The President of the Maine Maritime Academy or the president's designee.

2. Chair. After all members of the task force have been named, the task force shall elect one member to serve as chair.

3. Duties. The task force shall:

A. Assess the extent to which past distributions from the fund resulted in the leveraging of external funds, the extent to which research that was funded resulted in

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- 1 long-term, direct applications to enhance the State's economic or commercial
2 capacity and the extent to which research that was funded resulted in advancing a
3 program of successful partnerships and positive economic impact;
- 4 B. Assess the competitive criteria currently used by the fund, review the targeted
5 technologies identified in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 407 for which
6 funds may be used to perform university-based research and consider options for
7 revising the criteria and targeted technologies to ensure a more equitable distribution
8 of funds; and
- 9 C. Examine the recent fund distributions among the recipients and assess whether
10 revisions to the fund should be made to support the performance of increased
11 research at the University of Maine at Augusta, the University of Maine at
12 Farmington, the University of Maine at Fort Kent, the University of Maine at
13 Machias and the University of Maine at Presque Isle and the performance of research
14 at the Maine Maritime Academy.
- 15 **4. Meetings.** The task force shall meet as necessary to complete the assigned duties.
- 16 **5. Staffing.** The University of Maine System shall provide staff support to the task
17 force within existing resources.
- 18 **6. Compensation.** Members of the task force do not receive compensation for their
19 time, travel or other expenses.
- 20 **7. Report.** The task force shall complete its work no later than December 15, 2012
21 and shall submit its report and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
22 Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and economic development
23 matters no later than January 8, 2013.
- 24 **8. Authority to submit legislation.** Following receipt and review of the report, the
25 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research
26 and economic development matters may submit a bill concerning the subject matter of the
27 report to the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.'
- 28 Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter
29 or section number to read consecutively.

30

SUMMARY

31 This amendment establishes the Maine Economic Improvement Fund Task Force to
32 review the Maine Economic Improvement Fund and recommend any changes necessary
33 to enhance investment in targeted research and development and product innovation and

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SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1393, L.D. 1885

1 to provide basic investment necessary to obtain matching funds and competitive grants
2 from private and federal sources.

3 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

4 (See attached)

5 SPONSORED BY: Kevin L. Raye
6 (President RAYE)

7 COUNTY: Washington



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1885

LR 2792(09)

An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" S-548

Sponsor: Sen. Raye of Washington

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the University of Maine System to provide staff support to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund Task Force can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.

Additional costs to Maine Maritime Academy to serve on the task force can also be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.