

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

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Legislative Document

No. 90

S.P. 41

In Senate, January 24, 2013

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### An Act To Strengthen Maine's Workforce and Economic Future

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Reference to the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant".

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President ALFOND of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Speaker EVES of North Berwick and  
Senators: BOYLE of Cumberland, CAIN of Penobscot, CLEVELAND of Androscoggin,  
CRAVEN of Androscoggin, DUTREMBLE of York, FLOOD of Kennebec, GERZOFISKY of  
Cumberland, GOODALL of Sagadahoc, GRATWICK of Penobscot, HASKELL of  
Cumberland, HILL of York, JACKSON of Aroostook, JOHNSON of Lincoln, KATZ of  
Kennebec, LACHOWICZ of Kennebec, LANGLEY of Hancock, MAZUREK of Knox,  
MILLETT of Cumberland, PATRICK of Oxford, SAVIELLO of Franklin, THIBODEAU of  
Waldo, TUTTLE of York, VALENTINO of York, WOODBURY of Cumberland,  
YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot, Representatives: BEAVERS of South Berwick, BERRY of  
Bowdoinham, CAREY of Lewiston, CASAVANT of Biddeford, CASSIDY of Machias,  
CHIPMAN of Portland, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DION of Portland, FREDETTE of  
Newport, GILBERT of Jay, GOODE of Bangor, HAMANN of South Portland, HICKMAN of  
Winthrop, HOBBS of Saco, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, JORGENSEN of Portland,  
KAENRATH of South Portland, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, MASON of Topsham, McCABE of  
Skowhegan, McLEAN of Gorham, MITCHELL of the Penobscot Nation, MOONEN of  
Portland, NADEAU of Winslow, ROCHELO of Biddeford, RUSSELL of Portland, SAUCIER  
of Presque Isle, VOLK of Scarborough, WILLETTE of Mapleton.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 The bill proposes to strengthen the State's middle class and improve the State's  
6 business climate by making targeted and strategic investments in the State's workforce,  
7 place-based economic engines and small businesses.

8 The bill proposes to close the so-called "skills gap" between the State's workforce and  
9 the needs of the State's employers through a renewed partnership among the State's  
10 workers, educators and businesses.

11 The bill proposes to strengthen the State's place-based economic engines, including,  
12 but not limited to, downtowns, farms, forests and waters, to facilitate and accelerate  
13 economic growth.

14 The bill proposes to amend state laws to help improve the ability of small businesses  
15 to innovate and expand.