



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1393

H.P. 967

House of Representatives, April 11, 2017

Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Create a Statewide Economic Development Plan

(EMERGENCY)

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham. Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and Representatives: FECTEAU of Biddeford, GROHMAN of Biddeford, HERBIG of Belfast, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, ROSEN of Hancock.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and Whereas, this resolve establishes the Commission To Create a Statewide Economic 3 4 Development Plan to study a number of economic development issues and create a strategic, regionally focused economic development plan; and 5 6 Whereas, the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that 7 the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative session; and 8 9 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 10 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 11 therefore, be it 12 Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 13 14 353, the Commission To Create a Statewide Economic Development Plan, referred to in 15 this resolve as "the commission," is established; and be it further 16 Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 20 members appointed as follows: 17 18 1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including 19 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature; 20 2. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats 21 22 in the Legislature; 23 3. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the chancellor's designee; 24 4. The President of the Maine Community College System or the president's 25 designee; 26 5. An individual representing a private research institution appointed by the Speaker 27 of the House: 28 6. An individual representing a private organization focused on promoting economic 29 growth in the State appointed by the President of the Senate; 30 The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the 7. commissioner's designee; 31 32 8. The State Economist or the State Economist's designee; 9. The chair of the Maine Economic Growth Council or the chair's designee; 33 34 10. A representative of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce appointed by the 35 President of the Senate;

1 11. A representative of a regional chamber of commerce appointed by the Speaker of 2 the House;

3 12. The Commissioner of Transportation or the commissioner's designee;

13. Three members representing business or professional organizations, 2 of whom
may be representatives of business or professional enterprises based outside of the State
but that have or have had business interests in the State and that may include foreign
nationals, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

8 14. Three members representing business or professional enterprises, each based in a 9 separate region of the State, who may not be in the same industry, including at least one 10 representing a business with fewer than 25 employees, appointed by the Speaker of the 11 House; and be it further

12 Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved: That the first-named Senate member is the Senate 13 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the 14 commission; and be it further

15 Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this 16 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative 17 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, 18 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more 19 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been 20 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority 21 for the commission to meet and conduct its business; and be it further 22

- Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall create a strategic, regionally
 focused economic development plan for the State, including:
- An inventory and analysis of the State's competitive advantages and an inventory
 and analysis of factors that tend to retard economic development in the State;
- 27 2. Identification and analysis of state, national and international economic trends
 28 affecting the State's economic development;

3. Development of strategies for the promotion of business formation, expansion,
recruitment and retention through aggressive marketing, international development and
export assistance and any other strategies identified as advantageous that lead to more
and better jobs and higher wages for all geographic regions and disadvantaged
communities and populations of the State, including rural areas;

- 34 4. Development of policies and programs to further economic diversity in the State,
 35 its regions and their associated industries;
- 5. Stimulation of economic development and job creation in rural areas and smaller
 economic regions of the State, including strategies for rural marketing and the
 development of infrastructure, both physical and electronic, in rural areas;

1 6. Promotion of the successful long-term economic development of the State with 2 increased emphasis in market research and information;

3 7. Plans for the generation of foreign investment in the State that creates jobs paying 4 above-average wages and that results in reverse investment in the State, including programs that establish viable foreign markets, assist in meeting the financing 5 requirements of export-ready firms, broaden opportunities for international joint-venture 6 7 relationships, use the resources of academic and other institutions, coordinate trade 8 assistance and facilitation services and facilitate availability of and access to education and training programs that ensure that requisite skills and competencies necessary to 9 10 compete successfully in the global marketplace are taught;

- 8. Identification of business sectors that are of current or future importance to the
 State's economy and to the State's global business image and development of specific
 strategies to promote the development of these sectors;
- 9. Strategies for talent development necessary to encourage economic development
 growth in the State, taking into account factors such as the State's talent supply chain,
 education and training opportunities and available workforce; and
- 17 10. Identification of and a strategy for investing in research and development for
 18 innovation in manufacturing as well as other types of business development; and be it
 19 further
- 20 Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Department of Economic and 21 Community Development shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; 22 and be it further
- 23 Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 15, 2018, the commission shall submit a preliminary report, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the 24 25 Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development in 26 the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. No later than October 1, 2018, the 27 commission shall submit a final report that includes its findings and recommendations, 28 which may include suggested legislation to implement the plan under section 5 of this 29 resolve and to establish a permanent commission to monitor the progress of the plan, for presentation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over 30 31 economic development matters in the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.
- 32 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this 33 legislation takes effect when approved.
- 34 SUMMARY
- This resolve establishes the Commission To Develop a Statewide EconomicDevelopment Plan.