

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 832

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H.P. 600

House of Representatives, March 8, 2021

### **An Act To Promote Immigrant Workforce Development and Community Integration**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

*Robert B. Hunt*  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Task force.** The Department of Labor, Department of Education, Department  
3 of Health and Human Services and Maine State Housing Authority shall establish a task  
4 force to develop a statewide plan to assist immigrants who need housing, job training,  
5 language skills and transportation. The task force may invite the participation of other  
6 stakeholders in the work of the task force.

7 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
8 allocations are made.

9 **LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

10 **Immigrant Workforce Integration Program N297**

11 Initiative: Provides funds to contract with community-based organizations for language  
12 acquisition programs for persons who have recently come to this State as immigrants,  
13 refugees or asylum seekers.

14 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
15 All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
16		
17 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

18 **Immigrant Workforce Integration Program N297**

19 Initiative: Provides funds to contract for workforce development programs, such as college  
20 courses, professional licensing and short-term educational programs, for persons who have  
21 recently come to this State as immigrants, refugees or asylum seekers.

22 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
23 All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
24		
25 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

26

27 **LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

28 **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

29

30 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
31	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
32 <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

33 **SUMMARY**

34 This bill establishes an interagency task force to develop a statewide plan to assist  
35 immigrants who need housing, job training, language skills and transportation. The bill  
36 also provides funds to contract with community-based organizations for language  
37 acquisition programs for persons who have recently come to this State as immigrants,  
38 refugees or asylum seekers. It also provides funds to contract for workforce development  
39 programs for persons who have recently come to this State as immigrants, refugees or  
40 asylum seekers.