

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Filing No. S-329)

**INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
130TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 490, L.D. 1517, "An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 6-I by inserting at the end a new blocked paragraph to read:

'This subsection is repealed September 1, 2024.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 2. 5 MRSA c. 383, sub-c. 10** is enacted to read:

**SUBCHAPTER 10**

**MAINE WORKFORCE, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE**

**§13120-T. Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute**

**1. Institute established.** The Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute, as established in Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 6-I and referred to in this subchapter as "the institute," is established to collect and analyze information related to workforce training and cost drivers for training, research and development, student debt and economic advancement in the State, to make policy recommendations to the Legislature and to conduct targeted research for the Legislature.

**2. Legislature to contract with university.** The Legislature, through the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters, shall contract with the University of Maine System to establish and maintain the institute. Personnel coordinating the work of the institute must be appointed by the University of Maine System in consultation with the

1 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation,  
2 development, economic advancement and business matters, and those personnel shall  
3 consult with and act on behalf of the Legislature, performing such data collection, analysis  
4 and research as the Legislature may require.

5 **3. State economic plan.** The institute shall align its work with the priorities of the  
6 State's economic development strategy developed by the department pursuant to this  
7 chapter.

8 **4. Steering committee.** The Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student  
9 Achievement Institute Steering Committee, referred to in this section as "the steering  
10 committee," is established to advise the Legislature and the University of Maine System  
11 on all matters related to the institute. With the exception of ex officio members, steering  
12 committee members must be appointed by the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
13 having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business  
14 matters for a term of 2 years. The steering committee shall meet at least 4 times each year  
15 and must include the following:

16 A. One member from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation;

17 B. One member from the department;

18 C. One member from the Department of Labor or the State Workforce Board,  
19 established under Title 26, section 2006;

20 D. One member from the University of Maine System;

21 E. One member from the Maine Community College System;

22 F. One member from a statewide organization representing business interests in the  
23 State;

24 G. One member from a statewide organization responsible for promotion of individual  
25 economic opportunities;

26 H. One member from a regional development organization serving one or more of the  
27 following: Aroostook County, Franklin County, Oxford County, Piscataquis County,  
28 Somerset County and Washington County;

29 I. One member who is involved in career and technical education;

30 J. One member who is employed in the public sector;

31 K. One member who is employed in the private sector;

32 L. The State Economist, who serves ex officio; and

33 M. The chief executive officer of the Finance Authority of Maine or the chief executive  
34 officer's designee, who serves ex officio.

35 The steering committee shall elect a chair from among its members to serve a term of 2  
36 years.

37 **5. Location and access.** The analysis, recommendations and research results gathered  
38 pursuant to this subchapter must be maintained by the institute at the University of Maine  
39 System and must be available for use by any interested group or individual.

40 **6. Sunset.** This section is repealed September 1, 2024.

**Sec. 3. Sunset review.** During the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters shall examine and review the work of the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 13120-T in order to make a decision regarding the continuation of the institute. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters may report out a bill based on that review to the 131st Legislature.

**Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**LEGISLATURE**

**Legislature 0081**

Initiative: Appropriates funds for the costs to the Legislature to contract with the University of Maine System to establish and maintain, for its duration, the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
All Other	\$100,000	\$100,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$100,000</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**SUMMARY**

This amendment does the following:

1. It changes the membership of the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute Steering Committee;
2. It adds a requirement that the Legislature contract with the University of Maine System;
3. It adds a requirement that the institute align its work with the priorities established by the State's economic development strategy developed by the Department of Economic and Community Development;
4. It adds a repeal date of September 1, 2024;
5. It adds a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters with the option for the committee to report out a bill in the 131st Legislature; and
6. It adds an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Legislature to contract with the University of Maine System in order to establish and maintain the institute for its duration.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1517

LR 1975(02)

## An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S. 329)  
Committee: Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

#### Legislative Cost/Study

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

#### Legislative Cost/Study

The bill includes an ongoing appropriation of \$100,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 and \$100,000 in fiscal year 2022-23 for the Legislature to contract with the University of Maine System to establish and maintain, for its duration, the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute.

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

According to the University of Maine System, it will be able to support the work of the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute within the funding provided in this legislation.

Additional costs to the Departments of Labor, Professional and Financial Regulation, Economic and Community Development, the Maine Community College System and the Finance Authority of Maine to serve on the steering committee can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.