

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

October 9, 1987 to October 10, 1987

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

October 21, 1987 to November 20, 1987

and the

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

January 6, 1988 to May 5, 1988

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,  
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

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Twin City Printery  
Lewiston, Maine  
1988

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**PUBLIC LAWS**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED AT THE  
FIRST AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS  
and  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
of the  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
1987

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## CHAPTER 855

H.P. 1904 — L.D. 2601

## AN ACT to Create the Economic Corridor Action Grant Program.

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13075 is enacted to read:

§13075. Economic Corridor Action Grant Program

The Director of the Office of Community Development shall implement a program to assist municipalities in the planning and implementation of capital improvements in public service infrastructure in municipalities within designated economic corridors.

1. Purpose. The purpose of the program is to enable municipalities within economic growth corridors to plan for growth and development and to develop the public service infrastructure to encourage and manage balanced growth.

2. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Economic growth corridor" means an economic corridor designated by the Commissioner of Transportation in consultation with the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and which is included in the Department of Transportation's Highway and Bridge Improvement Program that is presented to the Legislature during the first year of each biennium of the Legislature. An economic growth corridor shall contain the following:

- (1) Economic activity and good potential for continued economic activity;
- (2) Connections between commercial or population centers;
- (3) Connections among state municipalities with significant markets in other states and countries;
- (4) Connections between natural resource areas and value-added processors;
- (5) Connections between markets and tourist destinations.

B. "Public service infrastructure" means those facilities which are essential for public health, welfare and safety. These facilities include, without limitation, sewage treatment facilities, municipal water facilities, solid waste facilities, fire protection facilities, roads and traffic control devices, parks and other open space or

recreational areas and any other public facility which benefits the public.

3. Municipal eligibility. The Department of Economic and Community Development may make grants to eligible municipalities within economic growth corridors in support of capital investments in public service facilities or projects which support economic growth and development. Any municipality is eligible to apply for grants under this article when it has adopted a comprehensive plan pursuant to the requirements of Title 30, chapter 239, subchapter VI. Such a comprehensive plan shall include a capital investment plan comprised of the following elements:

A. An assessment of all public facilities and services, including, but not limited to, roads, sewers, schools, parks and open space, fire and police;

B. A capital investment plan for the replacement and expansion of existing public facilities or the construction of such new facilities as are required to meet expected growth and economic development. The capital investment plan shall include projections of when and where such facilities will be required; and

C. An assessment of the anticipated costs for replacement, expansion or construction of public facilities, an identification of revenue sources available to meet these costs and recommendations for meeting costs required to implement the plan.

4. Grants criteria. The department shall develop criteria and conditions for the award of grants to eligible municipalities after holding hearings pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 375, for the purpose of developing these criteria and conditions.

A. The department shall establish a preference for those municipalities which demonstrate a strong commitment and effort to the development and improvement of infrastructure.

B. The department shall give priorities to those projects which, in comparison to other proposed projects, will have the greatest impact on the economic growth corridors.

C. The department shall condition any grants under this article on consistency with the municipality's comprehensive plan, including its capital investment plan.

D. The department shall establish a preference for capital investment projects undertaken jointly by 2 or more municipalities or which provide substantial regional benefits.

E. The department shall adopt other criteria as it determines necessary to ensure that grants made under this article maximize the ability of municipalities to accommodate planned growth and economic development.

5. Adoption of rules. In addition to the criteria defined in subsections 3 and 4, the department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 375 to develop additional criteria for the selection of recipients of economic growth corridor action grants. These rules shall consider the following:

- A. The degree of need for grants;
- B. The degree of matching funds to be provided by a municipality or region whenever applicable;
- C. The priority of projects for the area;
- D. The priority of the area with respect to other corridors.

6. Coordination. The department shall coordinate the grants made under this article with all other community assistance grants administered by the department and with other state assistance programs designed to accomplish similar objectives, including those administered by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental Protection.

7. Funds. All grants provided pursuant to this section shall be made from any funds available for the purpose of the program to include federal funds, bond proceeds, General Fund appropriations, private money and any other available funds.

8. Report to the Legislature. The department shall annually report in writing and in person to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development no later than the 2nd Wednesday in February with respect to the implementation of this section. This report, at a minimum shall include:

- A. The economic growth corridors that have been awarded grants;
- B. The projects and the costs of the projects for which the grants have been awarded;
- C. The estimated impact of the projects on the municipality and the corridor;
- D. Applications for grants that were denied including the projects proposed in these applications and the reasons for the denial; and
- E. A summary of the hearings held pursuant to subsection 4, including a copy of the final rules.

Effective August 4, 1988.

## CHAPTER 856

H.P. 1744 — L.D. 2390

### AN ACT to Establish the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education Program.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3106 is enacted to read:

#### §3106. Telephone subsidies

The department may participate in the determination of eligibility for various subsidies of telephone costs for low-income people as established by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Title 35-A, section 7101.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §§3741-A and 3741-B are enacted to read:

#### §3741-A. Recipients with children 3 years of age and older

The department may seek a waiver from the United States Department of Health and Human Services to establish special eligibility requirements for assistance under this chapter to require participants with children 3 years of age and older to register for the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education Program established in chapter 1054-A. The eligibility requirements under this waiver shall provide that:

1. Current exemptions. No recipient may be required to register who would otherwise be exempt from registration under the United States Social Security Act, United States Code, Title 42, Section 602, Subsection 19 and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto;

2. Child with special needs. No recipient may be required to participate who has a child with special needs. A child with special needs means a child who has needs, professionally documented, related to physical disabilities, mental illness, mental retardation, developmental delays or disabilities, or emotional or behavioral problems; and

3. Voluntary participants given priority. No recipient may be required to participate until sufficient resources are assured within any quarterly period for voluntary participants who are in the program. This policy may be implemented on a regional basis.

#### §3741-B. Teenage parents

Teenage parents may be required to register in a program administered by the department specifically designed to encourage completion of education and enhance self-sufficiency.

Failure to register and actively participate in this program may not result in ineligibility for benefits under this chapter, except that any supplemental support services, such as child care and transportation, may be withheld until the teenage parent actively participates in the required program.