

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

March 14, 2006

The Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
The Honorable John Richardson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
122nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker,

Pursuant to Title 3 Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35, we are pleased to submit the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development from the review and evaluation of the Maine Development Foundation under the State Government Evaluation Act. In its review, the Committee found that the Authority is operating within its statutory authority.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lynn Bromley, with a small circled 'M' above it.

Senator Lynn Bromley
Chair

Handwritten signature of Nancy Smith.

Representative Nancy Smith
Chair

cc: Laurie Lachance, President, Maine Development Foundation
Patrick Norton, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

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COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Date: March 14, 2006

To: The Honorable John Richardson, Chair
The Honorable Beth Edmonds, Vice-Chair
Legislative Council, 122nd Maine Legislature

From: Senator Lynn Bromley, Senate Chair
Representative Nancy Smith, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development

Subject: Government Evaluation Act Review of the Maine Development Foundation

This memorandum is to inform you that the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development has submitted its findings and recommendations from the review and evaluation of the Maine Development Foundation under the State Government Evaluation Act to the Legislature pursuant to Title 3 Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35.

cc: Members, Legislative Council
David Boulter, Executive Director, Legislative Council

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Review of the Maine Development Foundation under the Government
Evaluation Act
February 2006**

The Government Evaluation Act

The Government Evaluation Act provides for a system of periodic review of the efficacy and performance of state government agencies (3 MRSA §951 et seq). The keystone of the Act is the agency program evaluation report that consists of a number of components required by the statute. Essentially, the report is an agency self-assessment, which the committee of jurisdiction uses as a starting point for its evaluation of the agency's effectiveness, efficiency and performance.

Review Process

On April 29, 2005, the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development notified the Maine Development Foundation of its intent to review the agency pursuant to the schedule established in 3 MRSA, §959. The Maine Development Foundation submitted its program evaluation report as requested.

On January 12, 2006, the chair of the Maine Development Foundation presented the Program Evaluation Report to the Committee. The Business, Research and Economic Development Committee held a work session on February 16, 2005 to discuss the information presented in the report.

Findings and Recommendation

Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development has reviewed the Maine Development Foundation and finds that it is operating within its statutory authority and that it has been very successful in achieving its goals. The Foundation is a non-profit corporation that is charged with promoting, supporting and revitalizing economic growth in Maine by advocating new approaches, building leadership capacity and providing non-partisan information and analysis. Detailed information about the Maine Development Foundation can be found in the Foundation's Program Evaluation Report, which meets the criteria set in statute (3 MRSA §956).