



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 782

S.P. 341

In Senate, February 21, 2023

**An Act to Support Statewide Economic Opportunities Through
Strategic Investments of Property and Funds, Including Emergency
Relief Funds**

Reference to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative HALL of Wilton and
Senator: LAWRENCE of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §5012, 4th ¶**, as amended by PL 1987, c. 308, §7 and PL 2011,
3 c. 657, Pt. W, §6, is further amended to read:

4 The commissioner may, subject to the approval of the Governor, apply for and accept
5 on behalf of the State any funds, other personal or real property, including emergency
6 relief funds, grants, bequests, gifts or contributions from any person, corporation or
7 government, including the Government of the United States for the purpose of economic
8 opportunity, business growth and other strategic investments. Such funds ~~shall~~ must be
9 received by the Treasurer of State on behalf of the State and deposited in an appropriate
10 new or existing account in the department. ~~All such funds may, subject to the rules~~
11 ~~promulgated by the Governor, be expended by the Commissioner of Agriculture,~~
12 ~~Conservation and Forestry.~~ Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the
13 commissioner may hold hearings and adopt rules, in accordance with the Maine
14 Administrative Procedure Act, with respect to the implementation and administration of
15 authorized grant or fund disbursement programs of the department. Rules adopted pursuant
16 to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter
17 2-A.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill allows the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, subject
20 to the approval of the Governor, to apply for and accept on behalf of the State emergency
21 relief funds. It specifies that funds and other personal or real property accepted by the
22 commissioner on behalf of the State be for the purpose of economic opportunity, business
23 growth and other strategic investments. It allows the commissioner to hold hearings and
24 adopt routine technical rules with respect to the implementation and administration of
25 authorized grant or fund disbursement programs of the Department of Agriculture,
26 Conservation and Forestry.