



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 893

S.P. 259

In Senate, February 19, 2019

An Act To Create an Updated Unified Maine Climate Action Plan

Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources 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 DILL of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative DUNPHY of Old Town and
Senators: BLACK of Franklin, GRATWICK of Penobscot, VITELLI of Sagadahoc,
Representatives: FECTION of Biddeford, O'NEIL of Saco, STANLEY of Medway.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §578-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§578-A. Access to climate data; University of Maine System**

4 The University of Maine System shall develop and implement procedures for
5 providing climate data collected by the University of Maine System to residents of the
6 State.

7 **Sec. 2. Maine Climate Action Plan update.** The Department of Environmental
8 Protection, referred to in this section as "the department," working with the Maine
9 Interagency Climate Adaptation Work Group, referred to in this section as "the MICA
10 Work Group," and the University of Maine, shall prepare an update to the Maine Climate
11 Action Plan developed in 2004 by the department pursuant to Public Law 2003, chapter
12 237 and referred to in this section as "the plan."

13 **1. Greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.** The updated plan must identify
14 targets for greenhouse gas emissions reductions beyond 2020.

15 **2. Mitigation strategies.** The updated plan must address climate change mitigation
16 strategies. The department shall update mitigation strategies for reducing the emission of
17 greenhouse gases in the State, including updating the strategies for greenhouse gas
18 mitigation included in the plan and identifying new strategies by applying the latest
19 scientific and technological information available related to climate change.

20 **3. Adaptation strategies.** The updated plan must address climate change adaptation
21 strategies. The department shall update the adaptation priorities described in the 2010
22 report entitled "People and Nature Adapting to a Changing Climate: Charting Maine's
23 Course" submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources during the
24 Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. The updated plan must include
25 adaptation strategies for implementation that prioritize cost-effectiveness and the welfare
26 of the State's citizens and visitors and that recognize the value of natural resources in the
27 State.

28 **4. MICA Work Group; stakeholder group.** The department, in coordination with
29 the MICA Work Group, shall convene a stakeholder group to evaluate the climate change
30 mitigation strategies and adaptation strategies available to the State in order to update the
31 plan pursuant to this section. The stakeholder group must include a broad representation
32 of stakeholders, including, but not limited to, representatives of:

- 33 A. Business, industry and trade associations;
- 34 B. Nongovernmental organizations;
- 35 C. State agencies with an interest in climate change mitigation and adaptation that
36 will likely be involved in the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies
37 in the updated plan;
- 38 D. Municipal governments;

- 1 E. Native American communities; and
- 2 F. The University of Maine and other institutions of higher education in the State
- 3 who have expertise in climate change.

4 The MICA Work Group is a group coordinated by the department with representatives
5 from 8 state agencies that consolidate resources for climate change adaptation and
6 mitigation and collaborate on opportunities for cross-agency projects related to climate
7 change. The 8 agencies represented on the MICA Work Group are the Department of
8 Environmental Protection; the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; the
9 Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency
10 Management Agency; the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for
11 Disease Control and Prevention; the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; the
12 Department of Marine Resources; the Department of Transportation; and the Governor's
13 Energy Office. Funding for staff support to the MICA Work Group and for meeting,
14 travel and other operational expenses related to the department's work in updating the
15 plan must be provided to the department from the General Fund.

16 **5. Student internships.** The department, in coordination with the University of
17 Maine, shall provide internships for students to work with the department and the MICA
18 Work Group in the development and implementation of the updated plan. An internship
19 coordinator at the University of Maine shall manage the internship program and facilitate
20 the integration of University of Maine resources, including, but not limited to, the
21 Climate Change Institute, the Maine Sea Grant, the Cooperative Extension, research
22 centers and academic units, in the development of the updated plan. Funding for the
23 internships and the internship coordinator must be provided to the University of Maine
24 from the General Fund.

25 **6. Consultants.** The department may contract with consultants to assist the
26 department in updating the plan.

27 **7. Report.** By December 1, 2021, the department shall submit a report on the
28 updated plan to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
29 environment and natural resources matters. The committee may submit legislation
30 relating to the report, including, but not limited to, legislation adopting the greenhouse
31 gas emissions targets, mitigation strategies and adaptation strategies identified in the
32 updated plan and requiring future progress reports to the committee, to the Second
33 Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

34 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
35 allocations are made.

36 **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF**

37 **Administration - Environmental Protection 0251**

38 Initiative: Provides a one-time appropriation for staff support to the Maine Interagency
39 Climate Adaptation Work Group and for consultants.

40

1	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
2	All Other	\$175,000	\$0
3			
4	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$175,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

5 **Administration - Environmental Protection 0251**

6 Initiative: Provides an appropriation for All Other costs for meetings, travel and other
7 operating expenses related to work on preparing an update to the Maine Climate Action
8 Plan.

9			
10	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
11	All Other	\$20,000	\$0
12			
13	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

14			
15	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,		
16	DEPARTMENT OF		
17	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2019-20	2020-21
18			
19	GENERAL FUND	\$195,000	\$0
20			
21	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$195,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

22 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

23 **Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031**

24 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to develop and implement procedures for providing
25 climate data collected by the University of Maine System to residents of the State in
26 accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 578-A.

27			
28	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
29	All Other	\$35,000	\$35,000
30			
31	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$35,000</u>	<u>\$35,000</u>

32 **Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031**

33 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for an internship program with the Department of
34 Environmental Protection for students to work with the department and the Maine
35 Interagency Climate Adaptation Work Group in the development and implementation of
36 an update to the Maine Climate Action Plan.

37

