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Date: (Filing No. S-)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 528, L.D. 1291, “An Act to Establish a Grant Program to Provide for Statewide and Equitable Access to Experiential Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Establish a Grant Program to Provide for Statewide and Equitable Access to Experiential Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Competition Programs'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §15312 is enacted to read:

§15312. Competitive grants for statewide experiential science, technology, engineering and mathematics competition programs

1. Grant purposes. The institute may award a grant through a competitive process to an organization based in this State that demonstrates that the organization is going to use the funds for a statewide experiential competition program for high school students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and that:

A. Maintains a formal affiliation with a national science, technology, engineering and mathematics program to provide opportunities for students to present Maine-based research to a national audience and facilitates participation in the national program by students who meet qualification standards at no cost to the students or the schools they attend;

B. Demonstrates a plan to broaden participation in student-led experiential science and engineering research projects by creating professional development opportunities for educators and learning opportunities for students who have not historically participated in student-led experiential science and engineering research projects, in accordance with the criteria described in subsection 3;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 C. Demonstrates a plan to maintain a formal partnership with the University of Maine
2 System to provide high school students increased access to college-level courses and
3 consideration for scholarship opportunities;

4 D. Demonstrates a plan to evaluate the effects of sustaining and increasing engagement
5 with science, technology, engineering and mathematics at participating high schools;
6 and

7 E. Demonstrates a plan to make student-led experiential science and engineering
8 research projects accessible to an increasingly diverse student population, including
9 individuals typically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and
10 mathematics professions, in accordance with the criteria described in subsection 3.

11 **2. Grant requirements.** An organization that receives a grant under this section shall:

12 A. Provide matching funds in the amount of the grant to be used for the same purpose
13 for which the grant was awarded; and

14 B. Deliver to the institute a report on the use of the grant money, including measurable
15 outcomes.

16 **3. Broadening participation.** An organization that receives a grant under this section
17 shall use the following criteria to make the program available to a diverse population of
18 students and schools, as required under subsection 1, paragraphs B and E. The organization
19 shall make the program available to students from:

20 A. Each of the State's 16 counties;

21 B. Public schools and private schools and to students who are homeschooled;

22 C. Schools that are eligible for schoolwide Title I benefits, as defined and identified by
23 the United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics;
24 and

25 D. Schools in cities, suburban areas, towns and rural locales, as defined and identified
26 by the United States Department of Education, National Center for Education
27 Statistics.

28 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
29 allocations are made.

30 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

31 **Office of Innovation 0995**

32 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to the Maine Technology Institute to award grants to an
33 organization for certain activities related to statewide science, technology, engineering and
34 mathematics programs.

35 GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
36 All Other	\$75,000	\$75,000
37		
38 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$75,000	\$75,000

39 ' ,

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

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SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies the eligibility for a grant from the Maine Technology Institute for a statewide experiential competition program for high school students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and provides criteria for the inclusion of students who have not historically participated in, or are underrepresented in, student-led experiential science and engineering research projects.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)