

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

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

**'Resolve, To Focus State Agency Efforts in Economic Development on Entrepreneurial Sustainability and Growth'**

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

**'Sec. 1 Department of Economic and Community Development directed to convene working groups to develop plan for economic growth in rural counties.**

**Resolved:** That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall direct staff to convene working groups in 3 rural counties in the State to develop a plan for economic development and growth that addresses the specific economic environment of each county. The working groups must consist of regional and local economic development leaders, members representing the local chambers of commerce, members from the Maine Jobs Council's workforce investment boards, county government leaders and members of the educational institutions in those counties. The working groups must convene at least 4 meetings to review the economic development needs of these counties and provide benchmarks for their strengths and weaknesses. The department shall assist and guide the working groups with their economic development initiatives; and be it further

**Sec. 2 Reporting date established. Resolved:** That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall report on the progress of each working group established under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development by February 1, 2008.'

## SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and creates a resolve that directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to convene working groups in 3 rural counties in the State to develop a plan for economic development and growth that addresses the specific economic environment of each county. It provides that the working groups must convene at least 4 meetings to review the economic development needs of these counties and provide benchmarks for their strengths and weaknesses. The department is required to assist and guide the working groups with their economic development initiatives and to report on the progress of each working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development by February 1, 2008.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**