



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1107

H.P. 811

House of Representatives, March 5, 2019

**An Act To Promote Workforce Development and Community
Integration**

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, H. of Cumberland and
Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, CROCKETT of Portland, DAUGHTRY of
Brunswick, FARNSWORTH of Portland, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MOONEN of
Portland, PERRY of Calais, Senator: CARSON of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Immigrant workforce development council.** The Department of
3 Labor shall establish an immigrant workforce development council composed of relevant
4 stakeholders. The department, after consultation with the council, shall provide funds to
5 entities that promote integration of immigrants into the workforce and community
6 through English language acquisition programs, job training and educational programs,
7 housing and transportation assistance and assistance in acquiring appropriate credentials.
8 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Labor in
9 consultation with the council shall develop a competitive process in which funds provided
10 to the Department of Labor in section 2 are to be distributed to qualified entities.

11 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
12 allocations are made.

13 **LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

14 **Immigrant Workforce Integration Program N297**

15 Initiative: Provides funds to support integration of immigrants into the workforce and
16 community through English language acquisition programs, job training and educational
17 programs, housing and transportation assistance and assistance in acquiring appropriate
18 credentials.

19

20	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
21	All Other	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
22			
23	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$5,000,000</u>	<u>\$5,000,000</u>

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill directs the Department of Labor to establish an immigrant workforce
26 development council and, after consultation with the council, to distribute funds through a
27 competitive process to entities that promote integration of immigrants into the workforce
28 and community. The bill also provides funds to support integration of immigrants into
29 the workforce and community.