



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1935

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H.P. 1243

House of Representatives, May 15, 2023

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### **An Act to Promote Workforce Development by Establishing a Workforce Development Program**

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

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and  
Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook,  
MALON of Biddeford, PERRY of Calais, ROEDER of Bangor, SALISBURY of Westbrook,  
SKOLD of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §2008** is enacted to read:

3 **§2008. Workforce development program**

4 **1. Establishment; composition.** The commissioner shall develop and implement a  
5 workforce development program as described by this section, referred to in this section as  
6 "the program." The commissioner is authorized to employ and assign to the program such  
7 employees as the commissioner considers appropriate.

8 **2. Purpose.** The purpose of the program is to provide services related to:

9 A. Language acquisition;

10 B. Housing;

11 C. Job training and education;

12 D. Transportation; and

13 E. Health care and case management.

14 **3. Intake and case management.** In coordination with other state agencies, the  
15 commissioner shall develop and implement a system for intake of persons needing services  
16 offered by the program, including an application form, and a system for case management.

17 **4. Rules.** The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this section, including  
18 rules regarding eligibility for the program. Rules adopted under this section are routine  
19 technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

20 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
21 allocations are made.

22 **LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

23 Initiative: Provides an ongoing appropriation to assist persons with language acquisition,  
24 housing, job training, education, transportation, health care and case management.

25 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
26 All Other	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
27		
28 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$10,000,000</u>	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill requires the Commissioner of Labor to develop and implement a workforce  
31 development program to provide services related to language acquisition, housing, job  
32 training and education, transportation and health care and case management.