



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1171

S.P. 392

In Senate, March 28, 2017

**An Act To Sustain and Attract Skilled Workers to Maine by
Improving the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity
Program**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CHENETTE of York.
Cosponsored by Representative NADEAU of Winslow and
Senators: LIBBY of Androscoggin, MILLETT of Cumberland, Representative: TIPPING of
Orono.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1018** is enacted to read:

3 **§1018. Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program liaison**

4 A position is established within the authority to serve as liaison to assist a Maine
5 resident with issues regarding participation in the Job Creation Through Educational
6 Opportunity Program established in Title 20-A, section 12542. Specifically, the liaison
7 shall assist the Maine resident in communicating with secondary school guidance
8 counselors, college career counseling services staff and the Department of Administrative
9 and Financial Services, Maine Revenue Services and in other issues related to the Maine
10 resident's participation in the program. For the purposes of this section, "Maine resident"
11 has the same meaning as in Title 20-A, section 12541, subsection 5.

12 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §12542, sub-§8,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 417, §2, is
13 amended to read:

14 **8. Publicity.** To assist institutions of higher education to promote the program, the
15 Finance Authority of Maine shall contract with a private nonprofit corporation in the
16 amount of at least ~~\$20,000~~ \$50,000 annually to market the program throughout the State,
17 targeting high schools, postsecondary educational institutions and organizations of
18 parents, teachers and other relevant audiences. Marketing efforts must include printed
19 materials, online information and in-person promotional efforts.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill establishes a position within the Finance Authority of Maine to assist Maine
22 residents in communicating with secondary school guidance counselors, college career
23 counseling services staff and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services,
24 Maine Revenue Services and in other issues related to the Maine resident's participating
25 in the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program. This bill also increases
26 the amount to market the program throughout the State from \$20,000 to \$50,000.