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Date: (Filing No. H-)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 378, L.D. 515, “An Act To Create New Models of Maine Manufacturing Employment and Education”

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 4 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 4. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics program development for education and employment. The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 11, referred to in this section as "the council," shall engage with the University of Maine System under Title 20-A, chapter 411, the Maine Community College System under Title 20-A, chapter 431, adult education programs under Title 20-A, chapter 315, the Finance Authority of Maine under Title 10, section 964, the Loring Development Authority of Maine under Title 5, section 13080 and private sector stakeholders to develop proposals for the following programs and initiatives to promote new models of manufacturing education and employment in the State:

- 1. A 5-year dual degree program through the University of Maine System in green technology and entrepreneurship, along with a scholarship program for students in the program and seed funding for business development in green manufacturing;
- 2. A 5-year dual degree program in educational communication and digital technology based within the University of Maine System to develop and prepare educators for remote communication, learning and training platforms;
- 3. A dual degree program in accounting and green technology based within the University of Maine System;
- 4. A platform for occupational licensing in educational communication and digital technology that addresses the needs of new residents of the State, including but not limited to immigrants and refugees;
- 5. An associate degree program, supported by public-private funding, to train students in green engineering and technology based within the Maine Community College System;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 6. An apprenticeship program in green technology and employment, including but not
2 limited to apprenticeships in solar farm development and operation;

3 7. Financing options through the Finance Authority of Maine or other appropriate
4 entities for graduates of educational and apprenticeship programs described in this section
5 to develop new businesses;

6 8. A solar steam train facility based at the Loring Development Authority of Maine.
7 The proposal may include, but is not limited to, tax incentives, financing from the Finance
8 Authority of Maine or other appropriate entities, formation of a committee to oversee
9 development and outreach to create a public-private partnership and shared ownership
10 between the State and employees of the facility; and

11 9. A committee to examine the transition to electric transportation infrastructure and
12 development of manufacturing opportunities to support that transition.

13 For the purposes of this section, "green" means relating to or concerned with reducing
14 negative short-term and long-term effects on the environment.

15 With the approval of 2/3 of the council and notwithstanding Title 20-A, section 11,
16 subsection 10, the council may seek and receive private funds as needed to further its
17 activities.

18 The council shall submit a report including the proposals required by this section to the
19 Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing
20 Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business. The
21 report must be submitted no later than December 1, 2021. After receipt of the report
22 required by this section, a joint standing committee may report out a bill based upon the
23 report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.'

24 Amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following:

25 '**Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
26 allocations are made.

27 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**
28 **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council Z175**

29 Initiative: Provides base allocations to authorize expenditures in the event private funds are
30 received to support the activities of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
31 Council related to the development of higher education programs and public-private
32 partnerships to enhance higher education and employment opportunities in the State in
33 science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

34 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
35 All Other	\$500	\$500
36		
37 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$500	\$500

38 '
39 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
40 number to read consecutively.

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SUMMARY

This amendment broadens language in section 4 of the bill related to the Finance Authority of Maine to allow for consideration of other possible financing options or entities as part of possible recommendations by the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council and stakeholders in their report to the Legislature. It adds language to allow the council, with approval of 2/3 of the council, to raise private funds as needed to complete its work. It provides additional flexibility in the placement of various programs from specific campuses to the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)