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Date: (Filing No. H-)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1107, L.D. 1497, “An Act To Establish the Maine Youth Impact Commission”

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

'An Act To Expand Youth-led Perspectives in Economic and Workforce Development through the Maine Development Foundation's Realize Maine Network'

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

'Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §917-A, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 240, Pt. RRRR, §3, is amended to read:

6. Attract and retain youth in the State; youth perspective and data in economic and workforce policy. The Maine Development Foundation shall, to the extent resources are available, establish and oversee an initiative to develop, recommend and implement specific strategies and efforts to attract and retain youth in this State and to ensure the inclusion of youth needs, perspectives and related data in public policy making. For the purposes of this subsection, "youth" means persons ~~20~~ 15 to 40 years of age. The initiative must be guided by an independent steering committee selected by the Maine Development Foundation Board of Directors that is composed of youth with a diverse representation of gender, race, geography, professional sector and education and including representation from regional young persons groups and networks across the State. The Maine Development Foundation shall perform activities to advance this initiative, including but not limited to:

- A. The support of regional efforts in this State to connect, attract and retain youth. Areas of support include professional and leadership development, social networking and community building and collaboration between regional groups for the purpose of promoting best practices;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 B. The support and promotion of existing and emerging economic development, public
2 policy and community initiatives that expand opportunities for youth in this State; ~~and~~

3 C. ~~The development and oversight of a comprehensive website~~ identification and
4 dissemination of resources linking youth to professional, educational, social,
5 recreational, cultural and civic opportunities in this State.; ~~and~~

6 D. The development and promotion of meaningful youth-led opportunities and a
7 clearinghouse for the perspectives and needs of young people, 15 to 29 years of age, to
8 inform data collection and policy making on workforce and economic development
9 issues and to provide enhanced youth input to relevant agencies and processes. The
10 experiences and needs of the broad range of young people in the State, including youth
11 of color and other disadvantaged groups, must be incorporated and considered.

12 **Sec. 2. Youth-led task force established.** To the extent resources are available,
13 the Maine Development Foundation, established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title
14 10, section 916, shall develop and implement an appropriate youth-led process to help
15 achieve the goals outlined in Title 10, chapter 107. A component of the process must
16 include a youth-led task force, or similar group, appointed by the Board of Directors of the
17 Maine Development Foundation. The Maine Development Foundation may also establish
18 a broader process to span the entire age demographic as outlined in Title 10, section 917-A,
19 subsection 6 and, at the discretion of the foundation, develop structures and processes to
20 effectively align the efforts of the youth-led task force with the existing Maine
21 Development Foundation's Realize Maine Network steering committee and other
22 collaborating entities and agencies that work with and support young leaders in the State.

23 The youth-led task force, or similar group, must include at least 15 persons 15 to 29
24 years of age who are residents of the State and are diverse geographically, racially and
25 economically and by interest, background and gender. The Board of Directors of the Maine
26 Development Foundation shall attempt to recruit members who have knowledge of
27 workforce and economic development issues facing young people of various racial and
28 ethnic backgrounds in the State and to work with organizations across the State that serve
29 and empower young leaders to identify strong candidates.

30 The youth-led task force, or similar group, shall develop recommendations for, assist
31 with and guide the Maine Development Foundation's work to:

32 1. Gather information and develop policy recommendations around improving
33 workforce and economic opportunities for young people in the State and serve as a resource
34 for State Government;

35 2. Collect data on the perspectives, concerns and ideas of young people in the State on
36 current workforce and economic policy issues and share that data with policy makers;

37 3. Provide a clearinghouse to gather and share information from various government
38 agencies and departments that involve young people in order to make information sharing
39 and inclusion of the youth perspective more effective and efficient;

40 4. Develop relationships and partnerships with educational institutions, organizations
41 and young people statewide in order to obtain and share information and to discuss, identify
42 and publicize the needs of young people and solutions to the workforce, education and
43 economic challenges facing young people in the State;

1 5. Identify strategies to ensure that young people from diverse backgrounds and
2 identities within the State are provided with equal opportunities throughout the State; and

3 6. Identify any other information and activities that may advance the goals outlined in
4 Title 10, section 917-A.

5 The Maine Development Foundation shall maintain the youth-led task force, or similar
6 group, until September 1, 2024 or until such time as the Maine Development Foundation
7 or the task force recommends its dissolution or transition to an alternate structure. At such
8 time as the task force dissolves, the Maine Development Foundation shall report to the joint
9 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development,
10 economic advancement and business matters on the alternate means by which the
11 foundation is ensuring youth leadership and perspectives in carrying out the provisions of
12 Title 10, section 917-A, subsection 6.

13 Nothing in this section may be construed to limit the powers or responsibilities of the
14 Board of Directors of the Maine Development Foundation to govern the affairs of the
15 foundation and to make such decisions as may be necessary for the legally, ethically and
16 financially sound operation thereof.

17 **Sec. 3. Reports.** Beginning February 1, 2022, and annually thereafter until 2025,
18 the Maine Development Foundation shall submit a report to the Legislature concerning the
19 foundation's work, activities, status of projects and programs, issues and policy
20 recommendations under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 917-A, subsection 6,
21 including the activities of the youth-led task force, or similar group, established under
22 section 2 of this Act. The reports must include an assessment of the effectiveness of Title
23 10, section 917-A, subsection 6 and the provisions of section 2 of this Act and any
24 recommendations for changes. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having
25 jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters
26 may report out a bill based on the report to the 130th Legislature and may report out a bill
27 based on the report to the 131st Legislature.

28 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
29 allocations are made.

30 **DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, MAINE**

31 **Development Foundation 0198**

32 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for the project management and administrative costs
33 associated with developing and implementing a youth-led process, including a youth-led
34 task force, in order to ensure the inclusion of youth needs, perspectives and related data in
35 public policy making.

36 GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
37 All Other	\$195,000	\$195,000
38		
39 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$195,000</u>	<u>\$195,000</u>

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41 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
42 number to read consecutively.

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. The amendment provides for the Maine Development Foundation to ensure the inclusion of youth needs, perspectives and related data in public policy making, especially for people 15 to 29 years of age, within its current work to develop, recommend and implement specific strategies and efforts to attract and retain youth in this State. The Maine Development Foundation is directed, to the extent resources are available, to develop and implement a youth-led process, including a youth-led task force or similar group, in order to achieve these goals and to maintain the youth-led task force until September 1, 2024 or until such time as the Maine Development Foundation or the task force recommends its dissolution or transition to an alternate structure. Such a process may align with current efforts within the existing Maine Development Foundation's Realize Maine Network. The Maine Development Foundation is directed to report to the Legislature concerning this work annually from February 1, 2022 to 2025. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters may report out a bill based on the report to the 130th Legislature and the 131st Legislature. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)