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Date: (Filing No. S-)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 623, L.D. 1785, “An Act To Address Staffing Shortages in Critical Public Safety Jobs through Economic Incentives”

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

'Resolve, To Examine Recruitment and Retention Programs and Incentives for Public Safety Workers'

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

'Sec. 1. Department of Labor to examine recruitment and retention programs and incentives for public safety workers. Resolved: That the Department of Labor, in consultation with the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, the Maine Sheriffs' Association, the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, the Maine Ambulance Association, the Maine Municipal Association and the Finance Authority of Maine, shall develop a definition of "public safety worker," which must include, but is not limited to, law enforcement personnel, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, and examine programs and incentives for recruitment and retention of such public safety workers.

In examining such programs and incentives, the Department of Labor shall identify programs and incentives used for the purpose of recruitment and retention of public safety workers in this State and in other states and evaluate the effect such programs and incentives have on recruitment and retention, or the estimated effect such programs and incentives may have if implemented. Such programs and incentives may include, but are not limited to, student loan repayment, mortgage loan or interest rate relief, hiring incentives, benefits such as group health insurance plans or retirement plans or payment for job-related training requirements.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Labor shall submit a report, including suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 housing matters by January 15, 2023. The joint standing committees may each report out a
2 bill based on the report to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

3 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
4 appropriations and allocations are made.

5 **LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF**

6 **Workforce Research Z164**

7 Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the cost to hire an outside contractor to research and
8 evaluate recruitment and retention programs and incentives for public safety workers and
9 prepare the required report.

10	GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
11	All Other	\$0	\$125,000
12			
13	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$125,000</u>

14 '
15 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
16 number to read consecutively.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Department of Labor, in
19 consultation with the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, the Maine Sheriffs'
20 Association, the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, the Maine Ambulance Association, the
21 Maine Municipal Association and the Finance Authority of Maine, to develop a definition
22 for "public safety worker" and to examine programs and incentives for recruitment and
23 retention of such public safety workers. The department is required to submit a report,
24 including suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
25 jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters
26 and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor and
27 housing matters by January 15, 2023. The joint standing committees may each report out a
28 bill based on the report to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

29 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

30 **(See attached)**