



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
CENTER FOR WORKFORCE RESEARCH AND INFORMATION
45 COMMERCE DRIVE
#118 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0118

Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

Laura A. Fortman
COMMISSIONER

Mark McInerney
DIRECTOR

Testimony of Mark McInerney,
Center for Workforce Research and Information, Maine Department of Labor
Against LD 1733 – *“An Act to Require the Revenue Forecasting Committee to
Prepare Economic Impact Statements for Certain Legislation”*
To the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee

Senator Rotundo, Representative Sachs, and members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. My name is Mark McInerney, I am the Director of the Center for Workforce Research and Information (CWRI) at the Maine Department of Labor (hereafter referred to as the Department). I am writing on behalf of the Department against LD 1733, “An Act to Require the Revenue Forecasting Committee to Prepare Economic Impact Statements for Certain Legislation.”

The proposed legislation is likely to require the Center for Workforce Research and Information to complete additional analysis work in collaboration with the Revenue Forecasting Committee and other state agencies to deliver economic impact analyses for future legislation that is related to the areas of Maine’s labor market and workforce. Compliance with LD 1733 would require additional resources be allocated to the Center for Workforce Research and Information to meet this additional workload.

Testimony already offered by the Associate Commissioner for Tax Policy and the Office of the State Economist summarizes well the rigorous nature of the work and the limitations of economic impact analyses. If enacted, this legislation is likely to increase the workload of the staff at the Center for Workforce Research in the areas of background research, identification of and collection of the most relevant data to be used in such economic impact analyses. I anticipate that the Center for Workforce Research and Information will not have the resources or staff capacity to complete this additional workload.

We at the Center for Workforce Research and Information are a team of 13 full time staff. Most of our staff time is dedicated to producing Maine’s labor statistics involving tasks such as reviewing information reported by employers to the Department through survey response or administrative data collection, assigning the appropriate industry code, occupation code or geography code to job and wage data, reviewing and analyzing data for quality, identifying outlying data, preparing data for publication and contacting employers via phone and email to illicit survey response or clarify information that has been provided. Most of this work is federally funded by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. The Center for Workforce Research and Information has cooperative agreements with these federal partners and required deliverables to meet as part of the terms of these agreements. Our staff all have full-time workloads with most our total staff

PHONE: (207) 623-7900

TTY Users Call Maine Relay 711

FAX (207) 287-2947

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in programs, services and employment.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

time dedicated to meeting required federal deliveries and producing labor statistics of the highest possible quality.