

LD 1673, Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Project to Facilitate the Inclusion of Economic Impact Statements in the Legislative Process

May 5, 2025

Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:

I am Joe Edwards, Board Chair of the Maine Jobs Council and an attorney residing in Readfield. I am here in support of LD 1673.

1. Background and mission of the Maine Jobs Council and the Alliance for Maine.
2. Overview of the Maine Competitiveness Assessment by the Porter Development Initiative (PDI).
3. Legislation and public policy often viewed in isolation, and the need for quality comprehensive research in the legislative process in order to strengthen our economic and demographic position.
4. Overview of the pilot project.

Legislative Council would oversee the pilot project, and would solicit proposals from public, private, nonprofit, and academic entities

The entities selected would produce unique economic impact statements that provide credible, nonpartisan, timely, and accessible information to committees to enhance legislative decision-making

Legislative Council could receive funds from any public, private, nonprofit, or academic source