



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1517

S.P. 490

In Senate, April 20, 2021

**An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development
and Student Achievement Institute**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on April 15, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Senator: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§6-I** is enacted to read:

3 **6-I.**

4 <u>Economic</u>	<u>Maine Workforce,</u>	<u>Not Authorized</u>	<u>5 MRSA §13120-T</u>
5 <u>Development</u>	<u>Research,</u>		
6	<u>Development and</u>		
7	<u>Student Achievement</u>		
8	<u>Institute</u>		

9
10 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA c. 383, sub-c. 10** is enacted to read:

11 **SUBCHAPTER 10**

12 **MAINE WORKFORCE, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STUDENT**
13 **ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE**

14 **§13120-T. Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement**
15 **Institute**

16 **1. Institute established.** The Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student
17 Achievement Institute, as established in Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 6-I and referred
18 to in this subchapter as "the institute," is established to collect and analyze information
19 related to workforce training, research and development, student debt and economic
20 advancement in the State, to make policy recommendations to the Legislature and to
21 conduct targeted research for the Legislature.

22 **2. Steering committee.** The Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student
23 Achievement Institute Steering Committee, referred to in this section as "the steering
24 committee," is established to advise the Legislature and the University of Maine System
25 on all matters related to the institute. With the exception of ex officio members, steering
26 committee members serve for a term of 2 years as follows:

27 **A.** The President of the Senate shall appoint:

- 28 (1) One member from a private college in the State;
- 29 (2) One member from the Maine Community College System;
- 30 (3) One member from a regional economic development organization serving one
31 or more of the following: Aroostook County, Franklin County, Oxford County,
32 Piscataquis County, Somerset County and Washington County;
- 33 (4) One member from a statewide organization responsible for business attraction
34 and expansion;
- 35 (5) One member involved in adult education;
- 36 (6) One member involved in career and technical education;
- 37 (7) One member employed in the public sector; and

- 1 (8) One member employed in the private sector;
2 B. The Speaker of the House shall appoint:
3 (1) One House member from the joint standing committee of the Legislature
4 having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and
5 business matters;
6 (2) One member from the University of Maine System;
7 (3) One member from the Maine Municipal Association;
8 (4) One member from the department;
9 (5) One member from the State Workforce Board, established under Title 26,
10 section 2006;
11 (6) One member from the Department of Labor;
12 (7) One member from a statewide organization representing business interests in
13 the State; and
14 (8) One member from a state-based organization involved in workforce and
15 business policy and development;
16 C. The State Economist, who serves ex officio; and
17 D. The chief executive officer of the Finance Authority of Maine or the chief executive
18 officer's designee, who serves ex officio.

19 The steering committee shall elect a chair from among its members to serve a term of 2
20 years and shall meet at least 4 times each year.

21 **3. Location and access.** The analysis, recommendations and research results gathered
22 pursuant to this subchapter must be maintained by the institute at the University of Maine
23 and must be available for use by any interested group or individual.

24 SUMMARY

25 This bill establishes the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student
26 Achievement Institute and a related steering committee to advise the Legislature on matters
27 related to workforce training, research and development, student debt and economic
28 advancement in the State. The bill describes the 18 required steering committee members
29 and establishes that each member, other than ex officio members, serves a 2-year term and
30 that the steering committee meets at least 4 times per year.