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Date: (Filing No. S-)

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON MAINE'S WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC FUTURE

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

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 41, L.D. 90, Bill, “An Act To Strengthen Maine's Workforce and Economic Future”

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

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State's businesses and policy experts have determined that an exceptionally well-trained workforce is essential to job creation and economic growth; and

Whereas, lifelong education is essential for all Maine people so that they have the knowledge, skills and values to reach their highest potential; and

Whereas, aligning our education and workforce development systems will allow Maine people to move across a seamless continuum of educational offerings; and

Whereas, the initiatives developed by the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future are essential to addressing the challenges of strengthening Maine's workforce, growing small businesses and revitalizing our downtowns in order to grow our economy; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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PART A

Sec. A-1. 20-A MRSA §9, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. OO, §2 and affected by §4, is further amended to read:

§9. Education Coordinating Committee

The Education Coordinating Committee, referred to in this section as the "committee," is established to promote efficiency, cooperative effort and strategic planning between the Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System ~~and~~, the Maine Maritime Academy and organizations and associations with a commitment to and interest in education matters. The committee consists of the Commissioner of Education, the Chair of the State Board of Education, the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, the President of the Maine Community College System, the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System, the President of the Maine Maritime Academy and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy.

The committee shall meet at least ~~twice each year~~ quarterly. The commissioner shall convene the first meeting of the committee by October 15, 1995. The committee shall elect a chair from among its members to serve for a term to be determined by the committee. The committee shall report on its deliberations and any recommendations to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters by February 15th each year.

Sec. A-2. Adult remedial education study. The Education Coordinating Committee, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 9, shall study issues related to the delivery of programs and courses to adults needing assistance in meeting the requirements for postsecondary education admission or entrance into specific training programs and to report to the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future by December 16, 2014 with its findings and recommendations. The joint select committee may report out legislation based on the Education Coordinating Committee's findings and recommendations. In studying issues related to the delivery of programs and courses of remedial education for adults, the Education Coordinating Committee shall consult with the director of the office within the Department of Education concerned with adult education and family literacy, representatives of the Maine Adult Education Association and the executive director of the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community within the University of Maine System.

PART B

Sec. B-1. 20-A MRSA §10907-A is enacted to read:

§10907-A. Transfer of postsecondary credits; award of degree

A person who earns an associate degree from the Maine Community College System must be allowed to transfer credits earned at a community college in this State to the University of Maine System for use toward a baccalaureate degree from the University of Maine System in accordance with agreements developed between the University of

1 Maine System and the Maine Community College System. A student who earns credits
2 at the University of Maine System, but who does not earn a degree, must be allowed to
3 transfer those credits to the Maine Community College System for use toward an
4 associate degree.

5 **Sec. B-2. Agreements for transfer of credits.** In accordance with the Maine
6 Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10907-A, the following provisions govern the
7 development of agreements for the transfer of credits from the Maine Community
8 College System to the University of Maine System.

9 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
10 following terms have the following meanings.

- 11 A. "Chancellor" means the Chancellor of the University of Maine System.
12 B. "President" means the President of the Maine Community College System.
13 C. "System" means the Maine Community College System.
14 D. "University" means the University of Maine System.

15 **2. Development of transition process.** The chancellor and the board of trustees of
16 the university, in cooperation with the president and the board of trustees of the system,
17 shall develop the policies and procedures necessary to provide a seamless transition
18 process that ensures that a student earning an associate degree from the system has the
19 opportunity to graduate from the university with a baccalaureate degree.

20 **3. Articulation agreements.** The chancellor and the board of trustees of the
21 university shall ensure through articulation agreements that programs of study in the
22 university for which there are equivalent programs of study in the system allow a student
23 to successfully transfer credits from a community college in this State to a campus of the
24 university so that a student who has earned an associate degree from a community college
25 has the opportunity to earn a baccalaureate degree at the university. Formulation of
26 articulation agreements in science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs
27 must be first priority.

28 **4. Block credit agreements.** In the absence of equivalent programs of study among
29 the university campuses and the community colleges in this State, the chancellor, in
30 cooperation with the president, shall develop a block credit agreement that ensures that a
31 student earning an associate degree at a community college in this State is guaranteed that
32 a minimum number of that student's credits transfers to the university.

33 **5. Reverse transfer credit.** A student who transfers to the university and who has
34 earned course credits from a campus of the system, but who has not earned an associate
35 degree from the system, after fulfilling the appropriate requirements toward a degree at
36 the university, may be awarded an associate degree, either by the university or the
37 system. The university and the system shall work collaboratively to develop a procedure
38 through which the university and the system are enabled to report such students as having
39 completed degrees.

40 **6. Effective dates.** The articulation agreements required under subsection 3 must be
41 in place for all appropriate programs no later than September 1, 2014. Articulation
42 agreements for general education must be in place no later than January 1, 2014 within
43 the system and the university separately, and by September 1, 2014 between the

1 university and the system. Articulation agreements for the science, technology,
2 engineering and mathematics programs must be in place no later than September 1, 2014.
3 The requirements of subsections 4 and 5 must be met by September 1, 2014.

4 **7. Common course numbering system.** The chancellor and the president shall
5 study the feasibility of developing a common course numbering system between the
6 university and the system, including identifying best practices, opportunities and
7 challenges. The chancellor and the president shall report the results of their study, along
8 with a plan and schedule for implementation of a common course numbering system if
9 their study results in a solution that could be realized in a reasonable timeframe and that
10 adds value to the transfer process, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and
11 Cultural Affairs no later than September 1, 2014.

12 **8. Report.** The chancellor and the president shall report on the result of their efforts
13 to ensure that the requirements of this section are carried out to the Joint Standing
14 Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 15, 2014.

15 **PART C**

16 **Sec. C-1. 26 MRSA c. 39** is enacted to read:

17 **CHAPTER 39**

18 **MAINE INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS**

19 **§3301. Establishment; purpose**

20 A cooperative initiative is established within the Office of the Governor to create
21 Maine industry partnerships pursuant to this chapter. The Industry Partnership Assistance
22 Collaborative is also established in the Office of the Governor and administered by the
23 Commissioner of Labor and consists of representatives from the Department of Labor,
24 the Department of Education, the Department of Economic and Community
25 Development, the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College
26 System. An industry partnership is led by representatives from business and industry
27 with assistance from the Industry Partnership Assistance Collaborative.

28 The purpose of the industry partnership cooperative initiative is to ensure that
29 employees in this State are directed toward and trained in the high-skill, high-demand,
30 livable-wage jobs of the 21st century economy. Industry partnerships shall align
31 education and training programs with industry needs to produce readily employable
32 workers and bring employers together in a collaborative effort to improve the
33 competitiveness of individual businesses, industry and the State's economy. Industry
34 partnerships shall provide the foundation for the State's demand-driven workforce
35 strategy designed to meet the workforce needs of businesses, the career goals and training
36 needs of workers and the economic development objectives of this State.

37 The Department of Labor may convene meetings of and coordinate the Industry
38 Partnership Assistance Collaborative, but each member is responsible for that member's
39 contributions to and support of industry partnerships, including financial resources.
40 Business and industry leaders engaging the Industry Partnership Assistance Collaborative
41 shall coordinate their efforts through the Department of Labor but may use any

1 appropriate Industry Partnership Assistance Collaborative member as their managing
2 partner.

3 **§3302. Definitions**

4 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms
5 have the following meanings.

6 **1. Career ladder.** "Career ladder" means a clear sequence of education course work
7 or training that is aligned with an identified series of positions, work experiences or
8 educational benchmarks or training credentials that offer occupational and financial
9 advancement within a specified career field or related fields over time.

10 **2. Collaborative.** "Collaborative" means the Industry Partnership Assistance
11 Collaborative established in section 3301.

12 **3. Educational programs.** "Educational programs" means the State's elementary
13 and secondary schools, career and technical education centers, adult education programs,
14 the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy and the University
15 of Maine System.

16 **4. High-priority occupations.** "High-priority occupations" means occupations that
17 have a significant presence in an industry cluster, are in demand by employers, pay a
18 livable wage or have a documented career ladder.

19 **5. Industry cluster.** "Industry cluster" means a group of employers closely linked
20 by a common product or services, workforce needs, similar technologies, supply chains
21 or other industry sector factors.

22 **6. Industry partnership.** "Industry partnership" means a workforce collaboration
23 that brings together multiple employers and employees, or employee representatives
24 when appropriate, in the same industry cluster to address common workforce needs.

25 **7. Soft skills.** "Soft skills" means those basic skills necessary to obtain and maintain
26 employment, such as interviewing and communications skills.

27 **8. Targeted industry cluster.** "Targeted industry cluster" means an industry cluster
28 identified by the collaborative pursuant to section 3303, subsection 2 as having statewide
29 economic impact, immediate or long-term workforce development needs and emerging or
30 competitive career opportunities.

31 **§3303. Industry clusters**

32 **1. Specific industry clusters.** The collaborative shall work with businesses,
33 industry associations and organizations, workforce and economic development agencies,
34 the State Workforce Investment Board established in section 2006 and the boards of the
35 local workforce investment areas designated pursuant to the federal Workforce
36 Investment Act of 1998, Public Law 105-220 and economic development entities to
37 define specific industry clusters based on the following criteria:

38 A. Statistics showing the competitiveness of an industry cluster;

39 B. Importance to the State's or a region's economic development;

40 C. Identification of supply and distribution chains within an industry;

- 1 D. Research studies on industry clusters; and
- 2 E. Existing industry partnerships such as those of the health care workforce and
- 3 associations of manufacturers.

4 **2. Targeted industry clusters.** The collaborative shall work with state and regional
5 workforce and economic development agencies, with input from regional business and
6 labor leaders, to identify which industry clusters are targeted for workforce and economic
7 development investments based primarily on the following activities:

- 8 A. Economic growth potential;
- 9 B. Competitiveness;
- 10 C. Employment base;
- 11 D. Wages, benefits and career opportunities;
- 12 E. Importance of the industry cluster to the state and regional economies; and
- 13 F. Workforce development needs.

14 **3. Evaluation of clusters.** Once during every 3-year period, the collaborative shall
15 contract with an independent research organization to evaluate the industry clusters as to
16 their importance to the State’s economy and determine the need for any changes to the
17 targeted industry clusters.

18 **4. Annual report.** The collaborative shall issue a report annually that includes
19 information and statistics on the targeted industry clusters, including labor market
20 information highlighting the targeted industry clusters. The report, which must be
21 presented to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
22 labor, commerce, research and economic development matters, must include an
23 occupational analysis of employment and wages within the targeted industry clusters.

24 **5. Occupations list.** The collaborative shall develop and make available to the
25 public on a yearly basis a list of statewide and regional high-priority occupations critical
26 to the success of the targeted industry clusters.

27 **§3304. Industry partnerships**

28 **1. Objectives.** The objectives of an industry partnership are to:

- 29 A. Organize businesses, employers, workers, labor organizations and industry
- 30 associations into a collaborative structure that supports the sharing of information,
- 31 ideas and challenges common to their industry cluster;
- 32 B. Identify the training needs of multiple businesses, especially a shortage of skills
- 33 that are critical to the competitiveness and innovation of the industry cluster;
- 34 C. Facilitate economies of scale by aggregating training and education needs of
- 35 multiple employers;
- 36 D. Help educational and training institutions align curricula and programs to industry
- 37 demand, particularly for high-skill occupations;
- 38 E. Foster and strengthen relationships between and among education programs
- 39 working to address the needs of related industry sectors;

1 F. Facilitate relationships, remove barriers and leverage and align resources between
2 participating departments and agencies of State Government and employers working
3 to address the needs of related industry sectors;

4 G. Inform and collaborate with the career and technical education centers, the boards
5 of the local workforce investment areas designated pursuant to the federal Workforce
6 Investment Act of 1998, Public Law 105-220, youth councils, business-education
7 partnerships, secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, parents and
8 career counselors for the purpose of addressing the challenges of connecting
9 disadvantaged adults and youth to careers;

10 H. Help companies identify and collaborate to address common organizational and
11 human resource challenges, including, but not limited to, recruiting new workers,
12 retraining dislocated workers, hiring foreign-trained professionals, retaining
13 incumbent workers, implementing a high-performance work organization, adopting
14 new technologies and fostering experiential and contextualized on-the-job learning;

15 I. Develop and strengthen career ladders within and across companies, enabling
16 entry-level workers to improve skills and advance to higher-wage jobs;

17 J. Help companies in an industry partnership to attract potential employees from a
18 diverse pool of persons seeking jobs, including veterans and individuals with barriers
19 to employment, such as persons who are economically disadvantaged, people with
20 disabilities, youth, older workers, ex-offenders and others; and

21 K. Strengthen connections among businesses in industry clusters, leading to
22 cooperation beyond workforce issues that would improve competitiveness and job
23 quality, such as joint purchasing, market research or centers for technology and
24 innovation.

25 **2. Responsibilities of the collaborative.** The collaborative shall:

26 A. Provide support and staffing assistance to the industry partnerships established
27 under this chapter;

28 B. Create an industry partnership to advise the collaborative, the State Workforce
29 Investment Board established in section 2006 and the boards of the local workforce
30 investment areas designated pursuant to the federal Workforce Investment Act of
31 1998, Public Law 105-220 on aligning state policies and leveraging resources across
32 systems, including workforce development, education and economic development;

33 C. Include requirements that support industry partnerships in all relevant programs,
34 grants and new initiatives; and

35 D. Use industry partnerships as a connective framework across systems and
36 programs when applying for federal and private funds.

37 **3. Agency and educational program roles and responsibilities.** The collaborative
38 shall provide staffing assistance to industry partnerships and shall assist the industry
39 partnerships in achieving the objectives described in subsection 1. Other agencies that by
40 statute, rule, funding or other policies affect employers and employees shall cooperate
41 with the collaborative by:

1 A. Maintaining up-to-date information on jobs, wages, benefits, skills and careers of
2 workers affected by such agency actions;

3 B. Developing and implementing policies that improve the jobs and careers of
4 workers affected by such agency actions; and

5 C. Reporting their job creation strategies and workforce needs to the collaborative.

6 **4. Evaluation information.** Upon request, all departments and agencies of this
7 State shall provide to the collaborative any information that will assist the collaborative in
8 carrying out the provisions of this chapter, including any performance measurement
9 information necessary to evaluate any program or policy affecting workforce
10 development in the State.

11 **5. Agency cooperation.** At a minimum, the following departments and agencies
12 shall work with the collaborative in the following manner.

13 A. The Department of Labor shall:

14 (1) Coordinate the collaborative and serve as lead agency in convening
15 collaborative members;

16 (2) Advise the collaborative of the Department of Labor's workforce and
17 economic development strategies, programs and initiatives; and

18 (3) Align existing training programs with industry partnerships.

19 B. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall:

20 (1) Advise the collaborative of the Department of Economic and Community
21 Development's workforce and economic development strategies, programs and
22 initiatives;

23 (2) Align existing training programs with industry partnerships;

24 (3) Make relevant business assistance programs available to industry
25 partnerships;

26 (4) Coordinate with the collaborative on areas of business retention; and

27 (5) Advise the collaborative of the Department of Economic and Community
28 Development's programs to improve competitiveness in industry and strategies
29 for forming industry clusters.

30 C. The Department of Corrections shall:

31 (1) Align training for inmates with industry clusters and high-priority
32 occupations and annually review these training programs to ensure that the
33 training programs prepare inmates for high-priority occupations; and

34 (2) Align reentry programs to take advantage of information and career
35 opportunities provided by industry partnerships.

36 D. The Department of Education shall:

- 1 (1) Develop curricula and build cross-agency and program partnerships to
2 support career pathways;
- 3 (2) Support innovative programs to address literacy, including English as a
4 second language, numeracy shortcomings and soft skills training, especially in
5 those occupations critical to targeted industry clusters;
- 6 (3) Work with the collaborative to develop programs and strategies to reduce
7 barriers to adult education;
- 8 (4) Coordinate career education initiatives in middle and secondary schools,
9 career and technical education programs and adult education;
- 10 (5) Facilitate employer engagement with local adult education and career and
11 technical education programs to align training with employer needs;
- 12 (6) Advise the collaborative in developing industry partnerships and career
13 pathways in cooperation with employers;
- 14 (7) Coordinate educational initiatives with postsecondary education programs;
- 15 (8) Support initiatives to develop industry-recognized credentials and new
16 programs providing academic credits in the State's public and private
17 postsecondary institutions, especially in occupations critical to targeted industry
18 clusters; and
- 19 (9) Work cooperatively with the collaborative and other agencies and education
20 programs to leverage resources and share data regarding statewide workforce
21 needs.

22 E. The Department of Health and Human Services shall:

- 23 (1) Create and maintain innovative programs that connect qualified clients of the
24 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, as defined in Title 22,
25 section 3762, subsection 1, with employment opportunities in the targeted
26 industry clusters;
- 27 (2) Support strategies to prepare those clients for success in postsecondary
28 education and training programs;
- 29 (3) Work with other agencies and education programs to develop career
30 pathways and education initiatives that provide those clients with information to
31 guide their education and training plans; and
- 32 (4) Collect and share aggregate employment information with the relevant
33 industry partnership to the extent allowed by applicable federal and state laws,
34 rules and regulations.

35 F. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation shall:

- 36 (1) Advise the collaborative on professional licensing opportunities and criteria;

1 (2) Provide the collaborative aggregate information on active professional
2 licenses as needed in analyzing data that will support or sustain industry
3 partnerships; and

4 (3) Assist the collaborative in developing strategies that will reduce barriers to
5 obtaining professional licensure within industry clusters where it may be
6 required.

7 G. The Maine Community College System shall:

8 (1) Develop curricula and build cross-postsecondary institution and program
9 partnerships to support career pathways;

10 (2) Support innovative programs to address literacy, including English as a
11 second language, numeracy shortcomings and soft skills training, especially in
12 those occupations critical to targeted industry clusters;

13 (3) Work with the other members of the collaborative to develop programs and
14 strategies to reduce barriers to adult education;

15 (4) Advise the collaborative in developing industry partnerships and career
16 pathways in cooperation with employers;

17 (5) Coordinate educational initiatives with adult education and other
18 postsecondary education programs;

19 (6) Support initiatives to develop industry-recognized credentials and new
20 programs providing academic credits, especially in occupations critical to
21 targeted industry clusters; and

22 (7) Work cooperatively with the collaborative and other agencies and education
23 programs to leverage resources and share data regarding statewide workforce
24 needs.

25 H. The University of Maine System shall:

26 (1) Develop curricula and build cross-postsecondary education institution and
27 program partnerships to support career pathways;

28 (2) Support innovative programs to address literacy, including English as a
29 second language, numeracy shortcomings and soft skills training, especially in
30 those occupations critical to targeted industry clusters;

31 (3) Work with other members of the collaborative to develop programs and
32 strategies to reduce barriers to adult education;

33 (4) Advise the collaborative in developing industry partnerships and career
34 pathways in cooperation with employers;

35 (5) Coordinate educational initiatives with adult education and other
36 postsecondary education programs;

1 (6) Support initiatives to develop industry-recognized credentials and new
2 programs providing academic credits, especially in occupations critical to
3 targeted industry clusters; and

4 (7) Work cooperatively with the collaborative and other agencies and education
5 programs to leverage resources and share data regarding statewide workforce
6 needs.

7 **§3305. Industry partnership grant program**

8 **1. Grant program.** The collaborative shall establish a competitive grant program
9 that provides support to industry partnerships and eligible applicants pursuant to this
10 section. The grants must be used to provide training or the ability for local, state or
11 regional industry partnerships to meet the objectives listed in section 3304.

12 **2. Applications and guidelines.** The collaborative shall establish grant guidelines
13 and develop grant applications and forms and institute any policies and procedures
14 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. These procedures must include at a
15 minimum:

16 A. A competitive application process;

17 B. A process to review applications and to make recommendations to the
18 collaborative;

19 C. A process for providing applicants with additional information about eligibility
20 requirements and assistance in preparing applications; and

21 D. A procedure for establishing eligibility requirements. At a minimum, the process
22 to establish this procedure must include the following:

23 (1) Involvement of the local workforce investment board;

24 (2) Participation of at least 4 employers, with at least 2 employers representing
25 businesses with fewer than 50 employees;

26 (3) Participation of employees and, where applicable, labor representatives;

27 (4) Private sector matching funding of at least 50%; and

28 (5) Commitment to participate in the performance improvement and evaluation
29 system established pursuant to section 3307.

30 **3. Grant period and renewal.** The grant period for grants awarded under this
31 section must be not less than 12 months and not more than 24 months. The collaborative
32 may provide opportunities for renewal after the initial grant period ends.

33 **4. Technical assistance.** The collaborative shall provide technical assistance to
34 grantees throughout the grant period.

35 **5. Other funding sources.** The collaborative shall seek funds from other private
36 and public sources to support and sustain industry partnerships and related activities
37 established in this chapter. Industry partnerships also may seek other sources of funding,
38 both public and private.

1 **§3306. Industry and labor market research**

2 The collaborative shall provide any industry and labor market research necessary to
3 support and further develop the work of industry partnerships, including, but not limited
4 to:

5 **1. Employment analysis.** Providing the most current available analysis of
6 occupations and skills in the State for the purpose of determining trends in the State that
7 may lead to changes in the targeted industry clusters;

8 **2. High-priority occupations list.** Maintaining and updating the annual list of the
9 State's high-priority occupations under section 3303, subsection 5; and

10 **3. List adjustment.** Providing the most current available analysis of high-priority
11 occupations for the purpose of determining trends that may lead to adjustments to the list
12 under subsection 2.

13 **§3307. Industry partnership performance improvement and evaluation system**

14 **1. Improvement and evaluation system.** The collaborative shall create and
15 implement a performance improvement and evaluation system that:

16 A. Collects critical industry partnership information on an annual basis, or more
17 frequently as determined by the collaborative;

18 B. Describes the benefits of the collaborative and its activities to employers,
19 employees and communities; and

20 C. Provides periodic performance information to the Legislature, the public and
21 workforce stakeholders.

22 **2. Cluster partnership reviews.** The collaborative shall coordinate year-end
23 reviews of each industry cluster's industry partnerships and produce a comprehensive
24 industry cluster overview report that describes:

25 A. The critical experiences of each industry partnership, such as training that was
26 most effective; most common human resource challenges; the impact of changing
27 technology on the industry; and prospective changes that may affect the industry in
28 the near term and long term; and

29 B. Practices that industry partnerships consider exemplary, such as effectively
30 engaging adult education programs and postsecondary educational institutions,
31 internships and clinical placements; working with effective training providers;
32 working with career and technical education centers; and other important practices by
33 which industry partnerships can assist each other.

34 **§3308. Rulemaking**

35 The Commissioner of Labor shall adopt rules for the operation of industry
36 partnerships funded in whole or in part under this chapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this
37 section are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

38 **Sec. C-2. Maine energy industry partnership on training in the heating,**
39 **ventilation and air conditioning trades.** The Industry Partnership Assistance

1 Collaborative established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, chapter 39 shall
 2 promote cooperation and coordination between the State and the energy industry sector to
 3 create an industry partnership to train workers in heating, ventilation, air conditioning and
 4 energy efficiency and conservation trades, which must be designed to promote
 5 partnerships among private sector industry organizations such as the Maine Energy
 6 Marketers Association Education Foundation and its Technical Education Center and
 7 various state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Finance Authority of Maine, the
 8 Maine State Housing Authority, the Maine Community College System and the
 9 Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

10 **Sec. C-3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 11 allocations are made.

12 **CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF**

13 **Adult Community Corrections 0124**

14 Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position at the women's
 15 center and funds for contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate
 16 training with industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

17	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
18	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
19	Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
20	All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
21			
22	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$136,500</u>	<u>\$187,631</u>

23 **Charleston Correctional Facility 0400**

24 Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position and funds for
 25 contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate training with
 26 industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

27	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
28	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
29	Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
30	All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
31			
32	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$136,500</u>	<u>\$187,631</u>

33 **Correctional Center 0162**

34 Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position and funds for
 35 contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate training with
 36 industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

1	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
2	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
3	Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
4	All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
5			
6	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$136,500</u>	<u>\$187,631</u>

7 **Downeast Correctional Facility 0542**

8 Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position and funds for
 9 contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate training with
 10 industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

11	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
12	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
13	Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
14	All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
15			
16	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$136,500</u>	<u>\$187,631</u>

17 **Mountain View Youth Development Center 0857**

18 Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position and funds for
 19 contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate training with
 20 industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

21	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
22	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
23	Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
24	All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
25			
26	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$136,500</u>	<u>\$187,631</u>

27 **State Prison 0144**

28 Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position and funds for
 29 contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate training with
 30 industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

31	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
32	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
33	Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
34	All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
35			
36	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$136,500</u>	<u>\$187,631</u>

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State Prison 0144

Initiative: Provides funds for one Vocational Trades Instructor position at the Bolduc Correctional Facility and funds for contractual training services, equipment and supplies to align inmate training with industry clusters and high-priority occupations.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$66,792	\$91,729
All Other	\$69,708	\$95,902
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$136,500	\$187,631

CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF	2013-14	2014-15
DEPARTMENT TOTALS		
GENERAL FUND	\$955,500	\$1,313,417
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$955,500	\$1,313,417

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Maine Industry Partnerships N154

Initiative: Provides funding for training activities conducted by, staffing and technical assistance to and a competitive grant program for Maine industry partnerships programs.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
All Other	\$100,000	\$100,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$100,000	\$100,000

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT	2013-14	2014-15
DEPARTMENT TOTALS		
GENERAL FUND	\$100,000	\$100,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$100,000	\$100,000

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

State Workforce Investment Board Z158

1 Initiative: Provides funds for one Public Service Coordinator position and related All
 2 Other costs needed to carry out the administrative responsibilities of the Industry
 3 Partnership Assistance Collaborative.

4	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
5	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
6	Personal Services	\$75,978	\$79,739
7	All Other	\$10,000	\$5,000
8			
9	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$85,978	\$84,739

10 **Workforce Research Z164**

11 Initiative: Provides funds for one half-time Senior Economic Research Analyst position
 12 and related All Other costs to collect, compile and analyze labor market research.

13	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
14	Personal Services	\$38,039	\$39,969
15	All Other	\$90,000	\$87,500
16			
17	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$128,039	\$127,469

18	LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF		
19	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2013-14	2014-15
20			
21	GENERAL FUND	\$214,017	\$212,208
22			
23	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$214,017	\$212,208

24	SECTION TOTALS	2013-14	2014-15
25			
26	GENERAL FUND	\$1,269,517	\$1,625,625
27			
28	SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$1,269,517	\$1,625,625

29 **PART D**

30 **Sec. D-1. Task Force on Adult Learners.** The Task Force on Adult Learners,
 31 referred to in this Part as "the task force," is established.

- 32 **1. Membership.** The task force consists of 13 members as follows:
 33 A. The Chancellor of the University of Maine System or the chancellor's designee;

- 1 B. The President of the Maine Community College System or the president's
2 designee;
- 3 C. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the
4 commissioner's designee;
- 5 D. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee;
- 6 E. The director of the office within the Department of Education concerned with
7 adult education and family literacy or the director's designee;
- 8 F. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee;
- 9 G. The Chair of the State Workforce Investment Board or the chair's designee;
- 10 H. One representative of a statewide membership organization advocating for
11 business, appointed by the Governor;
- 12 I. One representative from a statewide organization representing small business
13 owners, appointed by the Governor;
- 14 J. One representative of a nonprofit organization dedicated to postsecondary degree
15 attainment by nontraditional students, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 16 K. One representative of a statewide foundation dedicated to promoting sustainable
17 economic growth for this State, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 18 L. One representative of the board of a local workforce investment area designated
19 pursuant to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Public Law 105-220,
20 appointed by the Speaker of the House; and
- 21 M. One representative from a labor union in this State, appointed by the Speaker of
22 the House.

23 **2. Appointments; convening of task force; chair.** All appointments must be made
24 no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Part. The appointing authorities
25 shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have
26 been completed. After appointment of all members, the Executive Director of the
27 Legislative Council shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force at which the
28 chair of the task force must be elected from among its members. If 30 days or more after
29 the effective date of this Part a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the
30 executive director may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority
31 for the task force to meet and conduct its business.

32 **3. Duties.** The task force shall study issues related to the more than 200,000 adults
33 in the State who have obtained some postsecondary education but who have not earned an
34 associate or baccalaureate degree or obtained a professional certificate. The task force
35 shall develop a multisector statewide strategic plan to increase postsecondary degree
36 completion rates among the adult population that includes both short-term and long-term
37 strategies to increase degree completion rates by nontraditional students in the State and
38 shall develop proposed legislation related to these strategies.

- 39 A. In conducting its study and formulating recommendations, the task force shall:

- 1 (1) Review available literature and best practices related to degree completion by
2 nontraditional students, including any other task force reports related to degree
3 attainment;
- 4 (2) Convene appropriate subcommittees to gather additional information and
5 recommendations to ensure a broad-based view of degree attainment by
6 nontraditional students in this State. These groups must include, but are not
7 limited to, adult students currently enrolled in a college transitions program, the
8 State Workforce Investment Board, the boards of the local workforce investment
9 areas designated pursuant to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998,
10 Public Law 105-220, career and technical education centers and the Maine
11 Centers for Women, Work and Community within the University of Maine
12 System;
- 13 (3) Review available data and research on degree completion by nontraditional
14 students in Maine and New England and nationally;
- 15 (4) Assess the current status of degree completion by nontraditional students in
16 Maine, including available support services, academic programs, student funding
17 options and adult learner initiatives in progress; and
- 18 (5) Identify barriers to degree completion by nontraditional students.
- 19 B. The task force shall make recommendations to:
 - 20 (1) Develop a multisector statewide strategic plan to increase postsecondary
21 degree completion rates among the adult population;
 - 22 (2) Make the most effective use of local, state and federal resources, including
23 leveraging private foundation investment;
 - 24 (3) Align high school graduation, workforce training and adult education
25 expectations to public postsecondary institution admission and placement
26 requirements;
 - 27 (4) Promote seamless transfer and expansion of credits granted through prior
28 learning assessment, including credits for employer-based training programs;
 - 29 (5) Develop a statewide outreach and support campaign to reach the target
30 population of adults with some postsecondary education but no degree or
31 professional certification;
 - 32 (6) Create programs that accelerate certificate and associate and bachelor's
33 degree attainment;
 - 34 (7) Identify financial resources that support degree completion by nontraditional
35 students through grants or scholarships; and
 - 36 (8) Identify redundancies in programs and initiatives that serve adult learners and
37 recommend program elimination or, when appropriate, consolidation and
38 collaboration.
- 39 **4. Staff assistance.** The University of Maine System and the Maine Community
40 College System jointly shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force.

1 schools in creating career preparation courses and local business networks to support
2 career preparation activities. Jobs for Maine's Graduates shall provide these additional
3 resources within budgeted resources if those additional resources are included in the
4 2014-15 biennial budget and through private sector funds.

5 **Sec. F-2. Report.** As a condition of funding, the Executive Director of Jobs for
6 Maine's Graduates, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section
7 6901, shall report by February 1, 2014 to the Joint Select Committee on Maine's
8 Workforce and Economic Future on progress in its efforts under section 1. The report, at
9 a minimum, must include information on the number of high schools to which career
10 preparation resource support has been provided, the number of courses and networks
11 created, the number of students attending and completing the career preparation courses
12 created and the amount of private funding leveraged by state funding of Jobs for Maine's
13 Graduates.

14 **PART G**

15 **Sec. G-1. Maine Incumbent Worker Training Program.** The Maine
16 Community College System shall establish the Maine Incumbent Worker Training
17 Program as a pilot project. The pilot project must provide training to 300 employees of
18 existing businesses in the State over a 2-year period. The Maine Community College
19 System shall establish and administer the pilot project through existing resources and
20 grants.

21 **Sec. G-2. Implementation and report.** The President of the Maine Community
22 College System shall develop guidelines to implement the pilot project under section 1.
23 The guidelines established for the pilot project must require that participating businesses
24 with more than 100 employees pay at least 50% of the cost of the training of their
25 employees. The guidelines must also require participating businesses with more than 50
26 but no more than 100 employees to pay at least 25% of the cost of the training of their
27 employees. The guidelines may not require participating businesses with 50 employees
28 or fewer to pay any of the cost of training their employees under the pilot project. The
29 guidelines must give preference to programs that result in college credits and transferable,
30 industry-recognized credentials. The president shall report by January 15, 2015 to the
31 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce,
32 research and economic development matters on the pilot project. The report must
33 include, at a minimum, information on the training provided to incumbent workers, the
34 number of employees attending and completing the training programs, the number of
35 businesses participating and an initial evaluation of the effectiveness of the pilot project.

36 **PART H**

37 **Sec. H-1. Statewide internship portal.** The Commissioner of Labor shall work
38 collaboratively and in partnership with the Maine State Chamber of Commerce, public
39 and private colleges and universities in the State and private sector employers, both for-
40 profit and nonprofit, to expand the InternHelpME.com program, the statewide internship-
41 matching program managed by the Maine State Chamber of Commerce that connects

1 employers, students, colleges and universities and referred to in this Part as "the
2 program."

3 **Sec. H-2. Advisory committee.** The Commissioner of Labor, in consultation
4 with the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, shall establish the
5 InternHelpME Advisory Committee to assist the Commissioner of Labor in program
6 oversight and development, user policies, partnership and outreach activities and other
7 program components and activities for which the Commissioner of Labor seeks the
8 advisory committee's advice. The advisory committee, whose members are appointed by
9 the Commissioner of Labor, consists of 13 members:

- 10 1. One representative of career services;
- 11 2. Two representatives of an employer in this State with 100 or more employees;
- 12 3. Two representatives of employers in this State with fewer than 100 employees;
- 13 4. One representative of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce;
- 14 5. One representative of the University of Maine System;
- 15 6. One representative of the Maine Community College System;
- 16 7. One representative of a private college in this State;
- 17 8. One representative who is a student enrolled in a college or university in this
18 State;
- 19 9. One representative of a statewide organization of nonprofit entities;
- 20 10. One representative who is employed as a high school guidance counselor; and
- 21 11. One representative of an organization representing career and technology
22 educators.

23 **Sec. H-3. Report.** The Commissioner of Labor and the President of the Maine
24 State Chamber of Commerce shall report by January 2, 2015 to the joint standing
25 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce, research and
26 economic development matters on the program. At a minimum, the report must address
27 the number of private and public colleges and universities using the InternHelpME.com
28 website in the prior 2 years; the number of students who have developed their profiles
29 and posted resumes on the website; the number of employers who have used the website
30 and who are interested in providing internship opportunities; and the number of
31 internships posted to the website.

32 PART I

33 **Sec. I-1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
34 allocations are made.

35 COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE

36 Bring College to ME Program N155

37 Initiative: Provides funds to establish 4 new degree programs annually in high-skill, high-
38 wage, high-demand occupations.

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PART K

Sec. K-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF
Employment Services Activity 0852**

Initiative: Provides funds for the Maine Apprenticeship Program.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
All Other	\$575,000	\$590,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$575,000</u>	<u>\$590,000</u>

PART L

Sec. L-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE
Maine Community College System - Board of Trustees 0556**

Initiative: Provides funding to reduce the backlog of students waiting for admission into 14 programs offered by the community college that represent high-demand occupations and result in high-wage employment opportunities.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
All Other	\$1,180,000	\$1,180,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,180,000</u>	<u>\$1,180,000</u>

PART M

Sec. M-1. Foreign-trained worker pilot project. The Commissioner of Education, through the office within the Department of Education concerned with adult education and family literacy, shall establish a pilot project within the adult education program within the City of Portland's public schools to create the Welcome Center Initiative for foreign-trained workers, with an emphasis on foreign-trained professionals. Initial funds provided to the pilot project must be used to employ a full-time coordinator. The coordinator shall work in cooperation and collaboration with the department to develop a series of programs designed to serve the needs of foreign-trained workers through the Welcome Center Initiative. At a minimum, programs offered or coordinated by the Welcome Center Initiative must include education and career case management,

1 English as a second language, referrals to legal assistance, employer networking and
2 engagement and data collection and analysis about foreign-trained workers in this State.

3 **1. Funding.** A primary responsibility of the coordinator is to secure ongoing
4 funding to coordinate and sustain the Welcome Center Initiative. The coordinator, with
5 assistance from the department, may seek funding from private sources, including
6 individuals, foundations and corporations, and from other public sources.

7 **2. Report.** The Commissioner of Education shall report on the results of the
8 Welcome Center Initiative pilot project by January 15, 2015 to the joint standing
9 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters. At a minimum,
10 the report must include information on the number of foreign-trained workers who
11 received assistance through the Welcome Center Initiative pilot project, the training and
12 services provided, aggregate demographic information about program participants,
13 employment opportunities and placements and a preliminary evaluation of programs and
14 services that were most effective in meeting the needs of the Welcome Center Initiative's
15 users.

16 **Sec. M-2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
17 allocations are made.

18 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

19 **Adult Education 0364**

20 Initiative: Provides funds for a full-time coordinator position to establish a Welcome
21 Center Initiative for foreign-trained workers within the Portland adult education program.
22 The coordinator will develop and coordinate a comprehensive program designed to serve
23 foreign-trained workers, with an emphasis on foreign-trained professionals, and seek
24 private funds to support center programs and operations.

25	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
26	All Other	\$75,000	\$75,000
27			
28	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$75,000</u>	<u>\$75,000</u>

29 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
30 legislation takes effect when approved.'

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This amendment replaces the concept draft.

33 The amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause and does the
34 following.

35 **PART A**

36
37 This Part amends the laws governing the Education Coordinating Committee to
38 require that the committee meet at least quarterly. It also requires the committee to

1 consult organizations and associations with a commitment to and interest in education
2 matters in developing its cooperative efforts and strategic planning. It requires the
3 Education Coordinating Committee to examine the issues related to adults needing
4 assistance in meeting the requirements for postsecondary education admission or entrance
5 into specific training programs and to report to the Joint Select Committee on Maine's
6 Workforce and Economic Future by December 16, 2014 with its findings and
7 recommendations. This Part also authorizes the joint select committee to report out
8 legislation based on the Education Coordinating Committee's findings and
9 recommendations.

10 **PART B**

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12 This Part requires the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the Board of
13 Trustees of the University of Maine System, in cooperation with the President of the
14 Maine Community College System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community
15 College System, to develop the policies and procedures to establish a process for students
16 enrolled in community colleges in this State to successfully transfer their credits into the
17 University of Maine System in order to complete their baccalaureate degrees. It also
18 requires the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the President of the Maine
19 Community College System to study the feasibility of developing a common course
20 numbering system and provide a plan and implementation schedule, if their study results
21 in a solution that could be realized in a reasonable timeframe and that adds value to the
22 transfer process, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no
23 later than September 1, 2014.

24 **PART C**

25
26 This Part establishes Maine industry partnerships as a cooperative initiative within
27 the Office of the Governor. This Part also creates the Industry Partnership Assistance
28 Collaborative in the Office of the Governor administered by the Commissioner of Labor
29 and consisting of representatives from the Department of Labor, the Department of
30 Education, the Department of Economic and Community Development, the University of
31 Maine System and the Maine Community College System. This Part also establishes the
32 objectives for the industry partnerships and requires the collaborative to provide staffing
33 and other support for the industry partnerships. It establishes the industry partnerships
34 grant program and requires the collaborative to develop application and qualification
35 criteria for that program. This Part requires the collaborative to provide industry and
36 labor market research to industry partnerships and to establish a performance
37 improvement and evaluation system for the collaborative. This Part also includes an
38 appropriations and allocations section providing \$100,000 in each year of the biennium to
39 the Executive Department to support industry partnerships.

40 **PART D**

41
42 This Part establishes the Task Force on Adult Learners. The task force consists of 13
43 members and is charged with studying issues related to the more than 200,000 adults in
44 the State who have obtained some postsecondary education but who have not earned an
45 associate or baccalaureate degree or obtained a professional certificate. This Part requires

1 the task force to develop a multisector statewide strategic plan to increase postsecondary
2 degree completion rates among such nontraditional students, which will include both
3 short-term and long-term strategies to increase degree completion rates by nontraditional
4 students in the State and provide proposed draft legislation related to these strategies. The
5 task force is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Select
6 Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future no later than February 1, 2014.

7 **PART E**
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9 This Part requires the director of the office within the Department of Education
10 concerned with adult education and family literacy to convene the Working Group on
11 Adult Workforce Readiness to develop a statewide plan to address the work readiness
12 needs of unemployed adults, incumbent workers and employers. This Part requires that
13 the director report the findings and recommendations of the working group to the Joint
14 Select Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future by January 2, 2014.

15 **PART F**
16

17 This Part requires Jobs for Maine's Graduates to provide capacity, curriculum and
18 professional development to assist up to 30 high schools, depending on available funding,
19 in creating career preparation courses and local business networks to support career
20 preparation activities. It also requires the Executive Director of Jobs for Maine's
21 Graduates to report by February 1, 2014 on progress toward achieving the goal of
22 providing the resource support required by this Part to the Joint Select Committee on
23 Maine's Workforce and Economic Future.

24 **PART G**
25

26 This Part establishes the Maine Incumbent Worker Training Program as a pilot
27 project within the Maine Community College System. This Part requires that the pilot
28 project provide additional training to 300 incumbent workers across the State. This Part
29 requires the President of the Maine Community College System to establish guidelines
30 for the pilot project that require some participating employers to pay a percentage of costs
31 of providing training to their employees. This Part requires that the President of the
32 Maine Community College System report on the pilot project by January 15, 2015 to the
33 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce,
34 research and economic development matters.

35 **PART H**
36

37 This Part expands InternHelpME.com, a statewide internship-matching program
38 established by the Maine State Chamber of Commerce that links employers, students,
39 colleges and universities. This Part requires the Commissioner of Labor, in consultation
40 with the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, to establish a 13-
41 member advisory committee to assist the Commissioner of Labor in program oversight
42 and development. This Part requires a report on the expansion of InternHelpME.com to
43 the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor, commerce,
44 research and economic development matters by January 2, 2015.

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PART I

This Part provides an additional General Fund appropriation of \$320,000 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium to create 4 new degree programs annually through the Bring College to ME Program within the Maine Community College System. The new degree programs will be delivered to rural Maine in high-skill, high-wage occupations.

PART J

Part J provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$500,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 to match \$500,000 in private funding from the University of Maine System to establish a scholarship program in the University of Maine System to assist adults with prior education credits to return to the University of Maine System to complete their baccalaureate degrees.

PART K

Part K provides a General Fund appropriation for the Maine Apprenticeship Program of \$575,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$590,000 in fiscal year 2014-15.

PART L

Part L provides an additional appropriation of \$1,180,000 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium to the Maine Community College System to enable the system to reduce the backlog of student applicants for 14 high-demand courses of study that result in degrees or certifications that lead to the opportunity for graduates to obtain high-wage jobs.

PART M

Part M provides a General Fund appropriation of \$75,000 in each year of the 2013-2015 biennium to the office within the Department of Education concerned with adult education and family literacy for a full-time coordinator position for a pilot project that will establish a foreign-trained worker Welcome Center Initiative in the Portland adult education program.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)