

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## An Act To Amend the Staffing and Reporting Requirements for the Citizen Trade Policy Commission

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

**Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §11, sub-§9, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 699, §2, is amended to read:

C. Shall every 2 years conduct an ~~annual~~ assessment of the impacts of international trade agreements on Maine's state laws, municipal laws, working conditions and business environment. The assessment must be submitted and made available to the public as provided for in the annual report in paragraph D;

**Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §11, sub-§9, ¶D**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 699, §2, is amended to read:

D. Shall maintain active communications with and submit an annual report to the Governor, the Legislature, the Attorney General, municipalities, Maine's congressional delegation, the Maine International Trade Center, the Maine Municipal Association, the United States Trade Representative's Office, the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Association of Attorneys General or the successor organization of any of these groups. The commission shall make the report easily accessible to the public by way of a publicly accessible site on the Internet maintained by the State. The report must contain information acquired pursuant to activities under ~~paragraphs~~paragraph B and may contain information acquired pursuant to activities under paragraph C;

**Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §12** is enacted to read:

### **§ 12. Quorum**

For purposes of holding a meeting, a quorum is 11 members. A quorum must be present to start a meeting but not to continue or adjourn a meeting. For purposes of voting, a quorum is 9 voting members.

**Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

### **LEGISLATURE**

#### **Legislature**

Initiative: Provides funds for a full-time staff position for the Citizen Trade Policy Commission and general operating expenses.

| <b>GENERAL FUND</b>           | <b>2007-08</b> | <b>2008-09</b> |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 1.000          | 1.000          |
| All Other                     | \$50,000       | \$50,000       |

GENERAL FUND TOTAL

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\$50,000

\$50,000

### **SUMMARY**

This bill changes the frequency with which the Citizen Trade Policy Commission must conduct an assessment of the impact international trade agreements have on Maine's state laws, municipal laws, working conditions and business environment from annually to every 2 years. It also establishes what constitutes a quorum and provides funding for a full-time staff position.