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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1540

S.P. 490

In Senate, May 3, 2011

**An Act To Encourage Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
Education**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SCHNEIDER of Penobscot. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Representative RICHARDSON of Carmel and

Senators: ALFOND of Cumberland, BARTLETT of Cumberland, BRANNIGAN of Cumberland, COLLINS of York, COURTNEY of York, CRAVEN of Androscoggin, DIAMOND of Cumberland, FARNHAM of Penobscot, GERZOFKY of Cumberland, GOODALL of Sagadahoc, HASTINGS of Oxford, HILL of York, HOBBS of York, JACKSON of Aroostook, KATZ of Kennebec, LANGLEY of Hancock, MARTIN of Kennebec, MASON of Androscoggin, McCORMICK of Kennebec, PATRICK of Oxford, PLOWMAN of Penobscot, President RAYE of Washington, RECTOR of Knox, ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, SHERMAN of Aroostook, SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin, SULLIVAN of York, THIBODEAU of Waldo, THOMAS of Somerset, TRAHAN of Lincoln, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, WOODBURY of Cumberland, Representatives: BEAVERS of South Berwick, BELIVEAU of Kittery, BENNETT of Kennebunk, BLACK of Wilton, BOLDUC of Auburn, BRIGGS of Mexico, CAIN of Orono, CASAVANT of Biddeford, CELLI of Brewer, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, CHASE of Wells, CLARK of Millinocket, CORNELL du HOUS of Brunswick, COTTA of China, CRAFTS of Lisbon, CRAY of Palmyra, CROCKETT of Bethel, CURTIS of Madison, CUSHING of Hampden, DAVIS of Sangerville, DILL of Old Town, DOW of Waldoboro, DRISCOLL of Westbrook, DUCHESNE of Hudson, EBERLE of South Portland, EDGEComb of Caribou, ESPLING of New Gloucester, EVES of North Berwick, FITZPATRICK of Houlton, FLOOD of Winthrop, FOSSEL of Alna, FOSTER of Augusta, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GILBERT of Jay, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, GUERIN of Glenburn, HAMPER of Oxford, HARVELL of Farmington, HASKELL of Portland, HERBIG of Belfast, HINCK of Portland, HUNT of Buxton, INNES of Yarmouth, JOHNSON of Greenville, KAENRATH of South Portland, KENT of Woolwich, KESCHL of Belgrade, LIBBY of Waterboro, LOVEJOY of Portland, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, MAKER of Calais, MALABY of Hancock, MALONEY of Augusta, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, McCABE of Skowhegan, McCLELLAN of Raymond, McFADDEN of Dennysville, MORISSETTE of Winslow, NELSON of Falmouth, NEWENDYKE of Litchfield, O'BRIEN of Lincolnville, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARKER of Veazie, PETERSON of Rumford, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, PILON of Saco, PRESCOTT of Topsham, RANKIN of Hiram, RICHARDSON of Warren, SANBORN of Gorham, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SARTY of Denmark, SHAW of Standish, SIROCKI of Scarborough, STEVENS of Bangor, STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, TREAT of Hallowell, TURNER of Burlington, TUTTLE of Sanford, VOLK of Scarborough, WAGNER of Lewiston, WELSH of Rockport, WINTLE of Garland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-C, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

3 **8.**

4 Science, Technology, Expenses Only 20-A MRSA §11
5 Engineering and Mathematics
6 Council

7 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §11** is enacted to read:

8 **§11. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council**

9 **1. Establishment; composition.** The Science, Technology, Engineering and
10 Mathematics Council, established in Title 5, section 12004-C, subsection 8 and referred
11 to in this section as "the council," consists of the following 12 members:

12 A. Four ex officio members:

13 (1) The Commissioner of Education;

14 (2) The Chancellor of the University of Maine System;

15 (3) The President of the Maine Community College System; and

16 (4) The Commissioner of Labor; and

17 B. The following 8 members, appointed by the Governor:

18 (1) A representative from the University of Maine, Maine Center for Research in
19 STEM Education;

20 (2) A representative that teaches in elementary or middle school;

21 (3) A representative that teaches science or mathematics in secondary school;

22 (4) A representative that teaches in a technical school;

23 (5) A representative of public and private education partnerships;

24 (6) A representative of a statewide science, technology, engineering and
25 mathematics collaborative;

26 (7) A representative from the business sector who employs workers with training
27 in science, technology, engineering or mathematics; and

28 (8) A representative employed in an industry related to science, technology,
29 engineering or mathematics.

30 **2. Terms; vacancy.** The members of the council appointed pursuant to subsection 1,
31 paragraph B serve for 2-year terms and serve until their successors are appointed and
32 qualified. A member of the council is eligible for reappointment to the council. A
33 vacancy in the council does not impair the right of a quorum of the members to exercise
34 all the rights and perform all the duties of the council. In the event of a vacancy
35 occurring in the membership, the Governor shall appoint a replacement member for the

1 remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner in which the original appointment
2 was made.

3 **3. Duties.** The council shall develop strategies for enhancing science, technology,
4 engineering and mathematics education from prekindergarten through postsecondary
5 education and:

6 A. Review research that has been conducted on science, technology, engineering and
7 mathematics education in the State and recommend strategic directions for
8 consideration by policy makers as they identify future investments in science,
9 technology, engineering and mathematics;

10 B. Plan for coordinated state leadership with respect to science, technology,
11 engineering and mathematics education and initiatives;

12 C. Develop initiatives to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics
13 education;

14 D. Devise strategies for promoting career and technical education alignment and
15 supporting early career planning and transition supports from high school to college
16 and to the workforce; and

17 E. Propose methods for integrating out-of-school programs focused on science,
18 technology, engineering and mathematics with school-based programs, with the goal
19 of inspiring more students to concentrate in the fields of science, technology,
20 engineering and mathematics.

21 **4. Chair; vice-chair.** The council shall elect from its membership a chair and a
22 vice-chair. The chair and vice-chair serve for one-year terms. The chair and vice-chair
23 serve until their successors are elected. The chair calls meetings of the council and
24 presides over meetings. The vice-chair serves as the chair in the absence of the chair.

25 **5. Meetings; quorum.** The council shall meet at least 2 times each year. The chair
26 shall establish the agenda. A quorum of the council is 7 members.

27 **6. Compensation.** Members of the council appointed pursuant to subsection 1,
28 paragraph B are entitled to receive compensation for travel expenses as allowed under
29 Title 5, section 12004-C, subsection 8 while engaged in council activities.

30 **7. Assistance.** The Department of Education, the University of Maine System and
31 the Maine Community College System shall jointly provide staff support to the council.

32 **8. Annual report.** On or before January 15th annually, the council shall submit a
33 report of its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
34 Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters.

35 SUMMARY

36 This bill establishes the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council
37 to develop strategies for enhancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics
38 education from prekindergarten through postsecondary education.

