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Date: (Filing No. S-)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

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

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 490, L.D. 1517, “An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute”

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 6-I by inserting at the end a new blocked paragraph to read:

'This subsection is repealed September 1, 2024.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

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

SUBCHAPTER 10

MAINE WORKFORCE, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE

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

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

2. Legislature to contract with university. The Legislature, through the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters, shall contract with the University of Maine System to establish and maintain the institute. Personnel coordinating the work of the institute must be appointed by the University of Maine System in consultation with the

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation,
2 development, economic advancement and business matters, and those personnel shall
3 consult with and act on behalf of the Legislature, performing such data collection, analysis
4 and research as the Legislature may require.

5 **3. State economic plan.** The institute shall align its work with the priorities of the
6 State's economic development strategy developed by the department pursuant to this
7 chapter.

8 **4. Steering committee.** The Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student
9 Achievement Institute Steering Committee, referred to in this section as "the steering
10 committee," is established to advise the Legislature and the University of Maine System
11 on all matters related to the institute. With the exception of ex officio members, steering
12 committee members must be appointed by the joint standing committee of the Legislature
13 having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business
14 matters for a term of 2 years. The steering committee shall meet at least 4 times each year
15 and must include the following:

16 A. One member from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation;

17 B. One member from the department;

18 C. One member from the Department of Labor or the State Workforce Board,
19 established under Title 26, section 2006;

20 D. One member from the University of Maine System;

21 E. One member from the Maine Community College System;

22 F. One member from a statewide organization representing business interests in the
23 State;

24 G. One member from a statewide organization responsible for promotion of individual
25 economic opportunities;

26 H. One member from a regional development organization serving one or more of the
27 following: Aroostook County, Franklin County, Oxford County, Piscataquis County,
28 Somerset County and Washington County;

29 I. One member who is involved in career and technical education;

30 J. One member who is employed in the public sector;

31 K. One member who is employed in the private sector;

32 L. The State Economist, who serves ex officio; and

33 M. The chief executive officer of the Finance Authority of Maine or the chief executive
34 officer's designee, who serves ex officio.

35 The steering committee shall elect a chair from among its members to serve a term of 2
36 years.

37 **5. Location and access.** The analysis, recommendations and research results gathered
38 pursuant to this subchapter must be maintained by the institute at the University of Maine
39 System and must be available for use by any interested group or individual.

40 **6. Sunset.** This section is repealed September 1, 2024.

