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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON MAINE'S WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC FUTURE**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
126TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1253, L.D. 1746, Bill, “An Act To Facilitate Informed Planning for Higher Education and Careers”

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-G, sub-§10-E** is enacted to read:

**10-E.**  
Education                      State Education and Expenses Only                      20-A MRSA §12901  
Employment  
Outcomes Task  
Force

**Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA c. 437** is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER 437**

**STATE EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES TASK FORCE**

**§12901. State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force**

**1. Task force established.** The State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force, established in Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 10-E and referred to in this chapter as "the task force," is established to develop procedures to maintain and disseminate information and data from the Department of Labor's educational outcome database, referred to in this chapter as "the database," including but not limited to information and data on education results, program completion, graduation, credentials earned and employment and earnings outcomes for graduates of postsecondary educational institutions in the State over time.

**2. Membership.** The task force consists of 15 members as follows:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

- 1           A. Four members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:  
2                 (1) Two members of the Senate, one from each of the 2 parties holding the  
3                 largest number of seats in the Legislature;  
4                 (2) A representative from the University of Maine System; and  
5                 (3) A representative from the Maine School Management Association or a  
6                 successor organization;
- 7           B. Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:  
8                 (1) Two members of the House of Representatives, one from each of the 2  
9                 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature; and  
10                (2) A representative from the Maine Community College System;
- 11           C. Four members appointed by the Governor as follows:  
12                 (1) A representative from the Maine Maritime Academy;  
13                 (2) A representative from a private postsecondary educational institution in the  
14                 State;  
15                 (3) A representative from the Maine State Chamber of Commerce or a successor  
16                 organization; and  
17                 (4) A person with expertise in state and national higher education policy;
- 18           D. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee;  
19           E. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee;  
20           F. The administrator of the database or the administrator's designee; and  
21           G. The Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine or the chief  
22           executive officer's designee.
- 23           **3. Meetings.** The task force may meet no more than 4 times per calendar year.
- 24           **4. Chairs.** The first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named  
25           House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task force.
- 26           **5. Terms of appointment.** Nonlegislative appointed members of the task force are  
27           appointed for terms of 3 years and may serve beyond their designated terms until their  
28           successors are appointed. Terms of appointment of Legislators coincide with their  
29           respective legislative terms of office.
- 30           **6. Staffing.** The Legislative Council shall provide staff support to the task force,  
31           except that the Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is  
32           in regular or special session. The Department of Education and the Department of Labor  
33           shall provide assistance and information to the task force as is consistent with the  
34           departments' current federal grants related to the work of the task force and to the extent  
35           time and funding allow as determined by the departments.
- 36           **7. Duties.** The task force shall:

1 A. Review procedures to maintain and disseminate information regarding the  
2 employment and earnings of graduates of postsecondary educational institutions in  
3 the State based on the database;

4 B. Advise on the use of the information provided in the database by state agencies,  
5 higher education organizations that have partnerships with the task force, local school  
6 systems and the public;

7 C. Make recommendations regarding the design and content of a website jointly  
8 hosted by the Department of Education and the Department of Labor that provides  
9 maximum information to the public regarding higher education and employment;

10 D. Identify a viable long-term funding method to maintain the database;

11 E. Produce recommendations for the Department of Education regarding how to  
12 provide relevant, timely information to secondary school students who are making  
13 higher education decisions;

14 F. Address any issues that may arise from the use or impact of the database; and

15 G. Explore the feasibility of and possible methods for including data from the  
16 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Professional and  
17 Occupational Regulation regarding licensure, as well as data covering other  
18 workforce credentials, into the database.

19 **8. Reports; legislation.** The task force shall report to the joint standing committee  
20 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters, the joint standing  
21 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters and the joint select or  
22 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over workforce training  
23 matters by November 1st each year on the status of the database. The reports must  
24 describe funding sources for the database and the sustainability of that funding, how the  
25 website under subsection 7, paragraph C is used, including by whom and how frequently  
26 they use it, efforts to incorporate its use into secondary schools and any other issues the  
27 task force determines necessary. The task force shall as part of its report recommend  
28 whether the task force should continue its work, or if its work could best be handled by  
29 another entity. If the task force recommends that the task force should continue its work,  
30 it shall recommend any suggested changes in the membership and size of the task force.  
31 The task force may submit with the reports legislation required to implement its  
32 recommendations.

33 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
34 allocations are made.

35 **LEGISLATURE**

36 **Legislature 0081**

37 Initiative: Provides funding for the per diem and expenses of Legislators serving on the  
38 State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force and other miscellaneous costs  
39 associated with the task force.

1	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>
2	Personal Services	\$0	\$880
3	All Other	\$0	\$1,620
4			
5	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$2,500
6			

7 **SUMMARY**

8 This amendment of the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic  
 9 Future strikes and replaces the bill. It changes the name of the State Education and  
 10 Employment Outcomes Commission to the State Education and Employment Outcomes  
 11 Task Force. It also makes changes to the membership of the group, including a reduced  
 12 size of 15 members instead of 24. It restricts the number of meetings the task force may  
 13 have to 4 per year. It changes the responsibility for staffing the task force from the  
 14 Department of Labor and Department of Education to the Legislative Council; under the  
 15 amendment, the departments must provide information and assistance to the task force  
 16 consistent with federal grant requirements and department resources. It eliminates the  
 17 annual work plan duty of the task force and replaces it with a duty to explore the  
 18 feasibility of incorporating licensure and other workforce certification data into the  
 19 database. It also adds a reporting duty for the task force to the joint select or joint  
 20 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over workforce training matters  
 21 and adds a reporting date of November 1st. The task force is required to recommend in  
 22 its report whether the task force should continue and, if so, to include any suggested  
 23 changes in the membership or size of the task force. Further, the amendment eliminates  
 24 the Education and Employment Outcomes Technical and Data Working Group in the bill  
 25 and also eliminates the provision providing for staggered terms for the membership of the  
 26 task force.

27 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

28 **(See attached)**