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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1100

S.P. 382

In Senate, March 21, 2013

An Act To Update and Revise the Laws Governing the Maine Arts Commission

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative MAKER of Calais and
Senators: JOHNSON of Lincoln, LANGLEY of Hancock, Representatives: DAUGHTRY of
Brunswick, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, JOHNSON of Greenville, NELSON of Falmouth,
RANKIN of Hiram.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §405**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 622, Pt. V, §4, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **§405. Hearings; contracts**

5 The ~~commission~~ Maine Arts Commission is authorized and empowered to hold
6 public and private hearings, to enter into contracts, within the limit of funds available,
7 with individuals or organizations, and institutions for services furthering the educational
8 objectives of the commission's programs; to enter into contracts, within the limit of funds
9 available, with local and regional associations for cooperative endeavors furthering the
10 educational objectives of the commission's programs; to establish an endowment fund; to
11 accept gifts, contributions and bequests of funds from individuals, foundations,
12 corporations and other organizations or institutions for the purpose of furthering the
13 educational objectives of the commission's programs; to make and sign any agreements
14 and to do and perform any acts that are necessary to carry out the purposes of this
15 chapter. ~~Any funds, if given as an endowment, must be invested by the Treasurer of State~~
16 ~~according to the laws governing the investment of trust funds.~~ As determined by the
17 Director of the Maine Arts Commission, with the approval of the commission, the
18 endowment's principal and interest may be used to further the educational objectives of
19 the commission's programs. The commission may request and receive from any
20 department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the State such assistance
21 and data as necessary to carry out its powers and duties.

22 **Sec. 2. 27 MRSA §408**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. B, §36, is repealed.

23 **Sec. 3. 27 MRSA §410**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 532, §1, is repealed.

24 **Sec. 4. 27 MRSA §411**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 762, §1, is repealed.

25 **Sec. 5. 27 MRSA §412**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 762, §1, is amended to read:

26 **§412. Duties of the Maine Arts Commission**

27 ~~To accomplish the goals of the program, the~~ The Maine Arts Commission shall
28 provide leadership in developing and sustaining an agenda for arts education throughout
29 the State in partnership with federal, state and local entities. The commission shall lead
30 efforts to make the arts a part of the core education for all students from kindergarten to
31 grade 12 and to increase arts opportunities outside the school setting. The commission
32 shall:

33 **1. Funding.** ~~Provide funding to 1/3 of the schools in the State each year on a 3-year~~
34 ~~rotating basis;~~

35 **2. Professional artists.** ~~Use professional artists in developing a process for~~
36 ~~achieving learning results;~~

1 ~~3. **School systems.** Invite school systems, through their superintendents, to~~
2 ~~participate in the program;~~

3 **4. Goals.** Work with school systems to identify common education goals;

4 ~~5. **Training; information; seed money.** Provide training, information and seed~~
5 ~~money to each local arts education committee composed of school personnel and~~
6 ~~residents of the school district to develop a 3 year plan to increase arts education~~
7 ~~opportunities; and~~

8 ~~6. **Curriculum; projects.** Promote artist residencies, professional development for~~
9 ~~teachers, curriculum development and advocacy and information projects.~~

10 7. **Research.** Conduct research on arts education for elementary and secondary
11 schools; and

12 8. **Programs.** Operate arts education and outreach programs to combine the
13 presentation of art with arts education.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill removes language relating to the investment of the Maine Arts Commission
16 endowment funds by the Treasurer of State and allows the Director of the Maine Arts
17 Commission to expend endowment funds with the approval of the commission. It repeals
18 the Maine Student Artist Awards Program, the arts outreach program and the Arts in
19 Education Program and adds more general references to those programs in the duties of
20 the commission. It requires the commission to conduct research on arts education in
21 schools and operate arts education and outreach programs to combine the presentation of
22 art with arts education. The bill also repeals several current duties of the commission.