

**CHAPTER 310****OFFICE OF POLICY INNOVATION AND THE FUTURE****§3101. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW); PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF).]

**1. Director.** "Director" means the Director of the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future established by section 3102.

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §7 (RPR).]

**2. Office.** "Office" means the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future established by section 3102.

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §8 (RPR).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 343, Pt. D, §6 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 383, §1 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §§7, 8 (AMD).

**§3102. Office established; purpose**

The Office of Policy Innovation and the Future is established in the Executive Department to: support the creation of a coherent system of policy planning and coordinated implementation as one function and responsibility of the executive branch; serve the Governor as a research, advisory, consultative, coordinating and administrative agency; and advance policies that support a sustainable future for the State's people, communities, natural resources, physical infrastructure, industries, businesses and institutions by: [PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (NEW).]

**1. Assistance; data; policy.** Providing technical assistance and data to the Governor by undertaking special studies and plans as directed and preparing policy;

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).]

**2. Coordination.** Facilitating general intergovernmental coordination;

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).]

**3. Innovation.** Supporting state efforts to encourage innovation and policy that facilitates innovation in the public and private sectors;

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).]

**4. Technology.** Supporting improved technology use for government programs and advancing responsible state data policies;

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).]

**5. Resources.** Supporting the development of the State's economy and energy resources with the conservation of its natural resources; and

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).]

**6. Analysis.** Conducting ongoing demographic, economic, workforce and other needed analyses to support state policy makers.

[PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. GG, §4 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 343, Pt. D, §7 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 383, §2 (RPR). PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §9 (RPR).

### **§3103. Director**

The Director of the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future is appointed by the Governor and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. [PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §10 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 343, Pt. D, §8 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 383, §3 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §10 (RPR).

### **§3104. Powers and duties**

#### **(REPEALED)**

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. GG, §5 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 383, §4 (RP).

### **§3104-A. Powers and duties**

The director shall exercise the powers of the office and is responsible for the execution of the duties of the office. [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

#### **1. Duties of the director.** The director shall:

A. Appoint and remove the staff of the office and prescribe the duties of the staff as necessary to implement the duties of the office, including:

(1) Hiring professional personnel competent by education, training and experience in the fields of economics and economic development, local and regional planning, statistics, human resources, natural resources, climate science, energy, transportation, finance, taxation, health, education and general science and policy making; and

(2) Employing office assistance as necessary to support the work of the office; [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

B. Supervise and administer the affairs of the office and advise the Governor and other officials of State Government on matters of statewide policy planning and consult with them about policy planning and development matters and projects that affect the future of the State and its people; [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

C. At the request of the Governor, act for the State in the initiation of or participation in any multi-governmental agency program related to the purposes of the office; [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

D. At the request of the Governor, prepare and submit a budget for the office; and [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

E. At the request of the Governor, report on the activities of the office and, after consultation with and approval by the Governor, submit such recommendations for legislative action as are determined necessary to further the purposes of this chapter. [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

[PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

#### **2. Duties of the office.** Under the supervision of the director, the office shall:

A. Provide technical assistance to the Governor in identifying intermediate and long-range goals and policies for the State and appropriate measures to achieve these goals; [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

B. Conduct continuing analysis of the economy, human resources, natural resources and energy resources of the State, as well as other issues as directed by the Governor; collect and collate all data and statistics relating to these matters; and assist the Governor and state departments in formulating policies and programs to achieve identified goals; [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

C. Participate with other states or their subdivisions in interstate policy planning and provide guidance to other state or local governments to assist their policy planning; [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

D. Assist the State in applying for, using and leveraging federal and private grant-making sources on issues of importance to the State; and [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

E. Act as a coordinating agency among departments and agencies of State Government on issues requiring multiple departments or agencies to work together to develop strategies to respond to state challenges. [PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

[PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2019, c. 383, §5 (NEW).

#### **§3105. Acceptance and administration of funds**

The office may accept, administer and expend funds, including but not limited to funds from the Federal Government or from private sources, for purposes consistent with this chapter. The director shall provide a report of the amount of any outside funding received from private sources and its designated purpose to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs no later than 30 days after receiving the funds. [PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW); PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF).

#### **§3106. Contracts; agreements**

With the consent of the Governor the office may employ expert and professional consultants, contract for services as the director determines necessary, within the limits of the funds provided and consistent with the powers and duties of the office, and enter into agreements with the Federal Government and other agencies and organizations as will promote the objectives of this chapter. [PL 2019, c. 383, §6 (RPR).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 383, §6 (RPR).

#### **§3107. Governmental cooperation; temporary reassignment of governmental employees**

Any department, agency, authority, board, commission or other instrumentality of the State or other governmental unit may assist in the gathering of information, reports and data that relate to state policy planning and development. Upon request by the director, the Governor may assign to the office on a temporary basis personnel from any other state department or agency needed for a project assigned to the office. [PL 2019, c. 383, §7 (RPR).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 383, §7 (RPR).

#### **§3108. Confidential or proprietary information**

**(REPEALED)**

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §5 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. DD, §24 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 383, §8 (RP).

**§3109. Community Resilience Partnership Program**

**1. Definition.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "community" means a municipal government, tribal government, plantation, township or unorganized territory. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Program established; administration.** The Community Resilience Partnership Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the office to provide direction, assistance and grants to communities in the State to help the communities reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy and become more resilient to the effects of climate change. The office shall administer the program to provide technical and financial assistance for local and regional planning and implementation projects consistent with the State's emissions reduction targets under Title 38, section 576-A and the state climate action plan under Title 38, section 577. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Grants.** The program shall make grants from money appropriated to the program by the Legislature and any funds received by the office for the purposes of the program, including federal funding or private funds.

A. The program may solicit applications for grants and make grant awards through a competitive process to eligible communities and to service provider organizations as determined by the program. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

B. The department may establish eligibility requirements and other criteria to consider in awarding grants, as long as the criteria support the goals to help communities reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy and become more resilient to the effects of climate change. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

C. To maximize the availability of the technical and financial assistance program to all communities and to multi-community regions and service providers, financial assistance programs administered competitively under this section are exempt from rules adopted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to section 1825-C for use in the purchasing of services and the awarding of grants and contracts. The department shall publish a program statement describing its grant program and advertising its availability to eligible applicants. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

D. Grants awarded under this section may be for a period of up to 2 years. Recipients of grant funds through the program shall cooperate with the office's performance of periodic evaluations. The recipients shall meet the office's specific reporting requirements. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

**4. Other technical assistance.** The program may provide other technical assistance and knowledge sharing that may include, but is not limited to, assisting communities with information about available grant opportunities, sharing best practices from jurisdictions inside and outside the State, providing model language for local ordinances and policies and providing information to the general public that may support local and statewide policy changes meant to reduce emissions, encourage the transition to clean energy and increase resiliency to the effects of climate change. [PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1 (NEW).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular Session and the First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.