

Congressionally Directed Spending Requests—Financial Services and General Government

Catalyzing Business Growth in Maine's Marine and Agricultural Economy

Recipient: FocusMaine
Project Location: Augusta, ME
Amount Requested: \$919,000

Project Purpose: To grow jobs in Maine's food sector across the state through: scale-up programs to support growth-oriented food companies seeking markets for goods and services; an AgTech program to explore job opportunities at the intersection of agriculture and technology; and a comprehensive report based on inputs from industry and economists to fill information gaps in the sector and direct resources to supporting Maine's food economy.

Business, Agriculture and Rural Development (BARD) Technical Assistance Pipeline

Recipient: University of Maine System
Project Location: Orono, ME
Amount Requested: \$292,000

Project Purpose: For the University of Maine to develop a business education and technical assistance process pipeline for Maine's small-scale agricultural producers. In this program, Maine business students will be trained to provide high-quality, in-demand business advising services directly to Maine's small-scale agricultural producers to help them sustain and grow their businesses.

Maine's Entrepreneur Ecosystem Development

Recipient: Maine Development Foundation
Project Location: Hallowell, ME
Amount Requested: \$747,000

Project Purpose: To promote new jobs and business start-ups in nine Maine communities, including Augusta, Bath, Belfast, Brunswick, Ellsworth, Gardiner, Houlton, Rockland, and Westbrook. These communities will undergo an audit process to identify gaps and opportunities to better build their entrepreneur ecosystem. Entrepreneurs, service providers, lenders, property owners, and other stakeholders will conduct this audit. A comprehensive report for each community will be generated with prioritized action items for implementation, implementation activities based on the report, and ongoing data gathering and evaluation.

United Way of Greater Portland Childcare Workforce & Entrepreneurship Initiative

Recipient: United Way of Greater Portland
Project Location: Portland, ME
Amount Requested: \$180,000

Project Purpose: To help new childcare entrepreneurs in the Portland area open their own sustainable childcare businesses with the necessary training and investment to succeed. A strong childcare system will help working parents and parents seeking to complete or continue their education.

Coburn Gore Land Port of Entry

Recipient: United States General Services Administration (GSA)
Project Location: Coburn Gore, ME
Amount Requested: GSA Estimated Cost to Complete (\$93,840,000)

Project Purpose: To provide needed updates to the existing land port of entry at Coburn Gore. The proposed improvements will help modernize the facility to meet today's national security mission, trade and travel volume, and safety threats, including those related to the trafficking of heroin, fentanyl, opioid, and illegal narcotics. A 2018 GSA feasibility study determined the scope of the project, which includes a new facility on an expanded site providing outfitted configured canopies, inspection lanes and booths, a new outbound inspection lane, and a modernized, mission-capable main port building.

In 2019, GSA identified modernizing this facility as the highest priority in the region. The agency has stated that the current facility, which was built in the 1930s, is "significantly antiquated for today's security mission." GSA determined the project cost, which will be spent over several years.

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

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COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

June 22, 2021

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairman Van Hollen, and Ranking Member Hyde-Smith:

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested in the Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator