Maine Town and City Management Association Resolution

Resolution urging support for a nationally accredited graduate program as well as undergraduate program for public administration in the University of Maine System which can be offered to citizens throughout the state.

WHEREAS, the Maine Town and City Management Association (MTCMA) is an organization comprised of local government managers; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of this MTCMA resolve shall be:

1. To increase the proficiency of Municipal and County Administrators and Managers and other local government Managers and Administrators;

2. To strengthen the quality of local and county government through professional management;

WHEREAS, the MTCMA is aware of the current challenges to balance the dual necessities of cost reductions and strategic investments, and is also aware that the University of Maine System Trustees, acting on the recommendations contained in The University of Maine System and the Future of Maine: The Final Report and Implementation Plan of the New Challenges, New Directions Initiative, dated November 16, 2009, adopted “a new business model” based on reducing costs, increasing use of technology for certain administrative and educational functions, and greater focus and prioritization within the University of Maine System and

WHEREAS, the Academic Program Working Group, University of Maine, Preliminary Report, March 24, 2010 recommends the elimination of the Department of Public Administration undergraduate and graduate degree programs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Maine’s public administration undergraduate and graduate programs are nationally accredited through the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration; and

WHEREAS, the University of Southern Maine (USM) Muskie School of Public Service has educated public managers and other leaders since 1990; and thereby met public service and educational needs of state and local government in Maine; and

WHEREAS, the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) offers a Bachelor of Arts in Public Management (PM): and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing need to educate public managers in the State of Maine through a National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) accredited higher education institution; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Maine Town and City Management Association Board of Directors, assembled this 29th day of October, 2010 that:
1. The MTCMA encourages the University of Maine System Trustees to ensure that there is a robust, dynamic public administration program in the University of Maine System at the undergraduate and graduate degree levels with a nationally accredited graduate program at one of the leading campuses in the system, thereby preserving the opportunity for future leaders to receive high quality public service management education in state and local government in Maine; and further

2. The MTCMA strongly supports the need to offer a NASPAA accredited degree program in the State of Maine that will educate future local and state public managers to ensure that the delivery of public service is efficient, effective, progressive, ethical, transparent and professional; and further

3. The MTCMA strongly supports public administration degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels be made available throughout the state, and that the Trustees and University of Maine System leadership consider such possibilities as an executive MPA program, and a certificate in public administration, with the ability to have online access to afford an opportunity for as many interested citizens as possible to participate.

Approved the 29th day of October, 2010

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