

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 18, 2007

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CHANCELLOR REACTS TO GOVERNOR'S CURTAILMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

BANGOR—University of Maine System Chancellor Richard L. Pattenaude today offered the following reaction to Governor John E. Baldacci's announced budget curtailment:

"The Board of Trustees and I are grateful to Governor Baldacci for not including Maine's public universities in today's budget curtailment. He recognizes the effect such a curtailment would have on our 44,000 university students as well as on the effectiveness of university-based research and economic development initiatives.

"The University of Maine System fully realizes that it must continue its cost-containment initiative while, at the same time, protecting academic quality, value, and access. As I shared with the Governor in recent conversations, in January I will be presenting the next phase of that cost-reduction plan. This phase of the plan will involve a number of actions designed to reduce operating costs and to increase, to the greatest extent possible and practical, administrative effectiveness and efficiency. I appreciate the Governor's support for our efforts."