

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 57

H.P. 53

House of Representatives, January 11, 2005

### **An Act To Provide Free Tuition to Students Achieving Learning Results Standards**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FISCHER of Presque Isle.  
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec and  
Representatives: CAIN of Orono, CUMMINGS of Portland, EDGECOMB of Caribou,  
FISHER of Brewer, NORTON of Bangor.

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

4 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 429-B is enacted to read:

6 CHAPTER 429-B

8 TUITION WAIVER AT STATE POSTSECONDARY  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR STUDENTS ACHIEVING  
10 LEARNING RESULTS STANDARDS

12 §12581. Definitions

14 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

16 1. Authority. "Authority" means the Finance Authority of  
Maine.

18 2. Eligible student. "Eligible student" means a Maine  
20 resident who is a Maine high school graduate who has satisfied  
learning results standards pursuant to section 6209 and will be  
22 entering that person's first year in a state postsecondary  
educational institution.

24 3. State postsecondary educational institution. "State  
26 postsecondary educational institution" means the University of  
Maine System, Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Community  
28 College System.

30 §12582. Tuition waiver

32 Eligible students may attend the first year of any state  
postsecondary educational institution free of tuition charges.

34 §12583. Administration

36 1. Application. A person may apply to the authority for  
38 determination of eligibility under this chapter on forms and in a  
manner prescribed by rule of the authority. Rules adopted  
40 pursuant to this chapter are routine technical rules as defined  
in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

42 2. Decision. The authority shall determine whether an  
44 applicant is eligible and notify the applicant. The authority  
shall also notify the state postsecondary educational institution  
46 at which the person is accepted of the eligibility of that person  
for a tuition waiver. Unless notified by the authority of a  
48 change in the student's eligibility, the institution may not bill  
an eligible student for tuition during that student's first  
50 academic year.

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## SUMMARY

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This Act provides full tuition for the first year at any state postsecondary educational institution for Maine residents who are Maine high school graduates and have achieved state learning results standards.