

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 112

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S. P. 62

In Senate, January 10, 1963

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Farris of Kennebec.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-THREE

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AN ACT Relating to the Admission of Attorneys to the Bar of the  
State of Maine.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 105, § 1, amended.** The 3rd sentence of section 1 of chapter 105 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'Such board shall hold at least 2 sessions annually at such times and places in the State as the Supreme Judicial Court shall direct, for the purpose of examining all applicants for admission to the bar, as to their legal learning and general qualifications to practice in the several courts of the State as attorneys and counselors at law and solicitors and counselors in chancery and, upon. Upon such examination being had, the board shall issue to such applicants as shall pass the required examination a certificate of qualification stating the standing of the applicants and recommending their admission to the bar to each applicant who shall pass the required examinations and satisfy all other requirements of this chapter a certificate of qualification stating the standing of the applicant and recommending his admission to the bar.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 105, § 4, amended.** The first sentence of section 4 of chapter 105 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'Each applicant, unless heretofore qualified, before taking examination for admission to the bar of this State shall produce to said board satisfactory evidence of good moral character and of having received a preliminary education sufficient to entitle him to admission as a member in good standing of the 3rd year class of Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College or the University of Maine, or any other college or university approved by said board, as a candidate

for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, Science, Education or Business Administration.'

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 105, § 4, amended.** The last paragraph of section 4 of chapter 105 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'In addition to the foregoing requirements, each applicant shall produce to the said board satisfactory evidence ~~of having pursued the study of law in the office of some attorney or in some law school approved by said board for at least 3 years prior to examination or of having graduated from a law school approved by said board and that he has been a bona fide resident of the State for the 6 months last past that he has been a bona fide resident of the State for 6 months prior to the examination which he seeks to take and that he has graduated from a law school approved by said board, provided that any person otherwise qualified may qualify to take the bar examinations upon proof that he has studied law in an office of some attorney in the State of Maine for 3 years prior to September 1, 1963, or that he has studied law for a continuous period of at least 6 months in such law office prior to September 1, 1963, and in an approved law school for a combined period of 3 years.~~ When an applicant shall have satisfied said board that all the foregoing requirements have been fulfilled, said applicant shall pay a fee to be fixed by said board of not more than \$35 and shall then be required to submit to a written examination which shall be prepared by said board, ~~and also an oral examination by said board, if deemed necessary and shall be required to answer correctly a minimum of 70% of the questions asked to entitle said applicant to the certificate of qualification mentioned in section 1.~~ Any applicant who receives a grade of 70% or better as an average of all of the examinations given and who has satisfied all of the requirements and qualifications set forth in this chapter shall be entitled to the certificate of qualification mentioned in section 1. ~~The board shall, however, have power to establish such higher grades of standing as to them may seem proper.'~~

**Sec. 4. R. S., c. 105, § 5, repealed.** Section 5 of chapter 105 of the Revised Statutes is repealed.

**Sec. 5. Limitation.** If any person notifies the secretary of the Board of Bar Examiners in writing within 6 months of the effective date of this act that he intends to rely upon the Revised Statutes, chapter 105, section 5 which is repealed by this act, he may rely on those provisions.