

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1258

S. P. 496

In Senate, March 2, 1967

Referred to Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Katz of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Creating the University of the State of Maine.

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1865, c. 532, § 4, repealed and replaced. Section 4 of chapter 532 of the private and special laws of 1865 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

Sec. 4. Board of trustees of The University of the State of Maine. The board of trustees of the university, hereinafter named "The University of the State of Maine" shall be made up of 15 persons. The Commissioner of Education shall serve as a voting member *ex officio*. Fourteen of the members shall be appointed by the Governor for 7-year terms. Originally 2 shall be appointed for 7-year terms, 2 for 6, 2 for 5, 2 for 4, 2 for 3, 2 for 2 and 2 for one. Subsequent appointments shall be for full 7-year terms. A trustee shall retire from the board upon reaching the age of 70. Any vacancy shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired balance of the term. Trustees shall serve without pay but shall receive their actual traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties. The terms of the present trustees of the University of Maine shall expire on the effective date of this Act.

Sec. 2. P. & S. L., 1865, c. 532, §§ 4-A - 4-D, additional. Chapter 532 of the private and special laws of 1865 is amended by adding 4 new sections, 4-A, 4-B, 4-C and 4-D, to read as follows :

Sec. 4-A. Administration; president, chancellors, council. The board of trustees shall appoint the President of The University of the State of Maine, who shall serve at its pleasure and be chief administrative and education officer thereof. The President of the University of Maine, previous to the effective date

hereof, shall continue as the chief administrator only of the units comprising said university as of said effective date, namely at Orono and Portland and its several centers, and shall retain said title of president only until such time as he be designated "Chancellor" or by other title by the President of the University of the State of Maine with the approval of the trustees. The President of The University of the State of Maine with the approval of the board of trustees shall appoint the persons to head the various campuses, centers, branches, units and major divisions. The chief administrators of such campuses, centers, branches and units shall have the title of chancellor, provost, dean or other appropriate title depending upon the type and size of the institution over which he presides. All faculty and staff in campuses, centers, branches, units, programs and divisions shall be members of the faculty of the university. A council of the administrative heads of such campuses, centers, branches and units, with the president as chairman, shall be formed for the purpose of insuring regular and close coordination of programs, activities and planning.

Sec. 4-B. Duties of board of trustees and president. The board of trustees, on recommendation of and in consultation with the president, shall be responsible for:

1. Master plan. Developing and putting into effect a master plan for the university and providing for the regular revision of such plan as may be required by changing conditions;
2. Budgets. Approving the operating and capital budgets of the university and transmitting them directly to the Governor and the Legislature for their consideration and action;
3. Representation before Governor and Legislature. Representing all campuses, centers, branches and units of the university before the Governor, the Governor's Council and the Legislature in explaining and justifying all appropriation requests;
4. New or expanded programs. Evaluating and approving proposals for new or expanded educational, research and public service programs for the university, and encouraging programs and activities to further the conduct of research and the introduction of modern technology;
5. New proposals. Evaluating and approving proposals for all new campuses, centers, branches and units;
6. Specialized graduate programs. Developing arrangements for a division of the responsibility among the university's various campuses, centers, branches and units for specialized graduate and professional programs and university-based research;
7. Sharing facilities. Developing arrangements within the university and other institutions for the sharing of facilities, such as libraries, laboratories and other resources, where feasible as an alternative to duplicating various types of facilities;
8. Standards of extension education. Providing for the establishment of standards and overall coordination on a state-wide basis of off-campus programs of extension and continuing education;

9. Priorities for physical plant development. Establishing the priorities for the physical plant development of the university and seeking directly from the Governor and the Legislature appropriations for planning, building and land acquisitions, and overseeing all construction at the various campuses, centers, branches and units of the university;

10. Training of teachers. Providing for the training of teachers for their professional labors and overseeing all public programs of teacher education under a state-wide plan to be developed in cooperation with the Maine Teachers Association, the State School Boards Association, the State Board of Education and the private colleges;

11. Post-secondary vocational education. Being responsible for all public post-secondary programs in vocational and technical education;

12. Nautical training. Providing through the program and facilities of the Maine Maritime Academy for nautical training and the instruction of students in the science and practice of navigation, seamanship, steam, diesel and electrical engineering, radio communication, and ship operation, construction and design. They shall appoint a board of visitors to the Maine Maritime Academy composed of not less than 8 nor more than 12 members. So far as practicable they shall appoint: one person from the shipping industry; one person actively engaged in the ship-building or ship-repairing industry; one merchant marine master mariner possessing an active license; one merchant marine chief engineer possessing an active license; one person from the alumni of the university; one officer of the United States Navy, active or retired, designated by the Commandant of the First Naval District; one person from the State Department of Education or other state department, bureau or agency; and one representative of the Maritime Commission designated by the commission. The board of visitors shall act in an advisory capacity only and shall meet at least once a year. They shall serve without pay but shall receive their actual traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties;

13. Practical nursing. Providing for training in practical nursing.

14. Reports. Reporting biennially to the Governor, the Legislature and to the people of Maine on its plans and accomplishments.

Sec. 4-C. Institutions comprising The University of the State of Maine; assets and liabilities. Effective July 1, 1968, the following public higher education institutions, any campuses, centers, branches, units or schools maintained thereby and any future public higher education institutions which might be established are incorporated into a state-wide university system under the name and authority of The University of the State of Maine: The former University of Maine, Fort Kent State College, Gorham State College, Farmington State College, Washington State College, Aroostook State College, Central Maine Vocational-Technical Institute, Eastern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute, Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute, Southern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute and Maine Maritime Academy. As of said date, all of the physical assets, real and personal, belonging to and used in connection with said institutions are transferred, assigned and conveyed to said The University of the State of Maine and accepted thereby and said university shall assume the

care, control and disposition of said property together with all the duties and legal obligations and management of the former affairs of said institutions, including any obligations of said institutions in connection with indebtedness for dormitories and dining facilities. Any student funds in connection with said institutions presently required to be paid into the General Fund of the State shall continue to be paid into said fund until June 30, 1969.

Sec. 4-D. Options for employment benefits of personnel. All personnel heretofore employed at said above institutions shall have the option of continuing their membership, if such exists, in the Maine State Employees' Retirement System or of becoming members of the retirement system in effect at The University of the State of Maine at the time the election is made. Such election shall be made no earlier than July 1, 1968 and no later than October 1, 1968 on forms and in such manner as the board of trustees of The University of the State of Maine may direct. As to each such employee who elects to continue membership in the Maine State Employees' Retirement System, it shall thereafter be the responsibility of the university to provide for payment to the Treasurer of State of the amount which would have been the State's contribution to the retirement system for such employees had they remained in the State's service. As to all such employees who elect to become members of the retirement system in effect at the university, the Treasurer of State shall, within 90 days after notification of such election, cause to be paid into the fund of the retirement system of the university for each such employee his proper proportion of the funds allocable to such employee under the State retirement system in accordance with computations consistent with those used in the Maine State Employees' Retirement System. Such employees shall similarly have the option no earlier than July 1, 1968 and no later than October 1, 1968 of determining whether they shall keep their personnel classification, salary level and tenure rights, if such exist, for their work with their present institutions, or adopt such benefits as they exist under the system in effect at the university at the time the election is made.