

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 350

H. P. 274

House of Representatives, January 23, 1969

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Richardson of Stonington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Privately Owned Business, Trade and Technical Schools.

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

R. S., T. 20, c. 320, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 320, to read as follows :

CHAPTER 320

PRIVATELY OWNED BUSINESS, TRADE AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

§ 2661. Registration

Any person, partnership or institution or corporation operating or maintaining a private business, trade, vocational or technical school in Maine, except an institution authorized by law to grant a degree, shall register the institution with the Commissioner of Education on forms prepared for this purpose. The registration data shall include information on the institution's buildings, instructional facilities and provisions for the safety and well-being of the students, the qualifications of the faculty, the program of studies, policies for admission of students and financial resources and governing policies.

§ 2662. Permits to solicit

No person representing a privately-owned business, vocational or technical school located outside the State of Maine shall solicit or sell in Maine any course for resident training in such business, vocational or technical school unless he first secures a permit from the State Board of Education in the

same manner and on the terms provided in sections 2651 to 2656 pertaining to privately owned correspondence schools.

§ 2663. Penalty

Whoever operates or maintains a private business, trade or technical school in violation of this chapter, or represents himself as operating and maintaining such school, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$500.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

At the present time any person or group of persons may establish or conduct in Maine a privately owned business, trade or technical school. Unless such a school requests authority to offer a degree there are no laws or regulations to assure prospective students that any course offered is of acceptable quality or that charges for tuition or other purposes are reasonable. There is nothing to prevent the exploitation of young people who need good education and cannot afford to pay for anything less.

A majority of states have found it necessary or desirable to enact legislation regulating the establishment and operation of private business, trade and technical schools and such legislation is needed in Maine. Several private trade, business and technical schools have expressed a desire to have state approval of their programs. Some violations of accepted codes of ethics have been reported.

Sections 2651 to 2656 of chapter 310 of Title 20 require the obtaining of a permit for any person representing a privately owned correspondence school and the same should apply to any representative selling courses in a privately owned business, vocational or technical school outside the State.