

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 949**

H. P. 706 House of Representatives, February 18, 1971  
Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Woodbury of Gray.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT to Revise the Laws Relating to Authority for Granting Degrees  
and to Approval of Degree-granting Institutions.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 2202, sub-§ 1, amended.** The first paragraph of subsection 1 of section 2202 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 393 of the public laws of 1967, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

**No institution may apply to the Legislature for authority to grant degrees until it has received a certificate of temporary approval from the State Board of Education, and no institution may apply for authority to grant degrees until it has enrolled its 2nd class.**

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 2202, sub-§ 1, amended.** The 2nd paragraph of subsection 1 of section 2202 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 393 of the public laws of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

Any educational institution seeking authority to grant any educational, literary or academic degree, or any junior college or similar post-secondary educational institution seeking authority to grant an associate degree, shall make application to the ~~Secretary of State~~ **State Board of Education**, in a manner prescribed by ~~him~~ **said board**, not later than May 1st immediately preceding the legislative session.

**Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, § 2202, sub-§ 1, amended.** The first and last sentences of the last paragraph of subsection 1 of section 2202 of Title 20 of the Revised

Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 393 of the public laws of 1967, are amended to read as follows:

~~Upon notification by the Secretary of State it~~ It shall be the duty of the State Board of Education to obtain full information regarding the merit of the institution to confer the degree or grant the associate degree.

~~The report, with recommendations of the state board, shall be delivered to the Secretary of State at least 10 days before the opening of the regular legislative session.~~

**Sec. 4. R. S., T. 20, § 2202, sub-§ 3, amended.** The first sentence of subsection 3 of section 2202 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 393 of the public laws of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

~~When the Legislature is not in session, the~~ The State Board of Education shall have the power to grant to an applicant, who has secured from the board a certificate of temporary approval, permission to use the term "junior College", "college" or "university" in its name until the expiration of the academic year in which the next regular session of the Legislature convenes. Said board is authorized to extend or renew a certificate of temporary approval for not more than 2 years, to the end that the board may, if requested, consider the extension of temporary approval for new institutions which have not progressed to the point where it believes it is ready to seek degree-granting status by the time the next Legislature meets.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides that a certificate of temporary approval be granted by the State Board of Education to any institution of higher education before that institution can apply to the Legislature for the authority to grant degrees, and that the institution could apply for authority to grant degrees only after enrolling its 2nd class. The said board is also authorized to extend or renew a certificate of temporary approval for not more than 2 years. This Legislation will enable the State Board of Education to make certain that the program of each institution has been thoroughly evaluated before application for degree-granting privileges to the Legislature is possible.