

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1184

H. P. 860 House of Representatives, February 25, 1971
Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Lund of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Establishing Minimum Qualifications for Law Enforcement
Officers.

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

R. S., T. 25, § 2805, additional. Title 25 of the Revised Statutes is amended
by adding a new section 2805 to read as follows:

§ 2805. Selection of personnel for law enforcement

1. Minimum qualifications. No law enforcement agency shall employ any
person as a full-time law enforcement officer who does not meet the following
minimum qualifications:

A. He shall have earned a high school diploma or completed a course of
study determined by the board to be equivalent to a high school education.

B. He shall have completed a physical examination including an eye
examination. The scope of the examination shall be determined by the
board.

C. He shall be at least 20 years old.

D. He shall not have been convicted of committing a felony.

2. Basic training. As a condition to the continued employment of any
person as a full-time law enforcement officer by any law enforcement agency,
said person shall complete during the first year of his employment as a law
enforcement officer a basic training course approved by the board at a school
approved by the board.

3. **In-service training.** As a condition to the continued employment of any person as a law enforcement officer by any law enforcement agency, said person shall be enrolled in an in-service training program approved by the board.

4. **Board powers.** The board is empowered to adopt reasonable regulations for the enforcement of this section. The board may set minimum qualifications for persons applying for basic training required under subsection 2.

5. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section: "Board" shall mean the board of commissioners. "Law enforcement officer" shall mean any person empowered to serve criminal processes and to arrest and prosecute offenders of the law. "Full-time law enforcement officer" shall mean any law enforcement officer who is scheduled to earn, or is reasonably expected to earn, at least \$2500 in any one calendar or fiscal year for performing the law enforcement duties of his office.

6. **Application.** Subsections 1 and 2 shall not apply to any person employed as a law enforcement officer on the effective date of this Act.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this legislation is to establish minimum qualifications for law enforcement officers to assure Maine citizens of law enforcement protection and enforcement by adequately trained personnel.