

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1492**

S. P. 473

In Senate, March 17, 1971

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Katz of Kennebec.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Creating an Advisory Commission for the Study of Public Support  
for Post-secondary Education in Maine.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, post-secondary education in Maine as in the nation is in a state of deepening financial crisis; and

Whereas, a comprehensive study should immediately be commenced to determine public policy in providing public support to a broad spectrum of qualified institutions offering post-secondary education to Maine students, without undermining the necessary level of public support of public post-secondary education; and

Whereas, public programs of student assistance affect the ability of Maine students to take advantage of post-secondary educational opportunities; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Advisory Commission for the Study of Public Support for Post-secondary Education in Maine.** There is created an Advisory Commission for the Study of Public Support for Post-secondary Education in Maine. The commission shall consist of 15 members including the Chancellor of the University of

Maine, the Commissioner of Education, a member of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate, a member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House, and 11 members appointed by the Governor who shall designate one of the members as chairman.

The commission is directed to review and investigate the present and future economic needs of post-secondary educational institutions in Maine and their abilities to meet emerging needs of future Maine students, and to study present programs of publicly supported financial assistance to Maine students and develop recommendations, if necessary, for new or additional responses to increasing student needs.

The commission shall have the power to employ a director and such other consultative, statistical and clerical services as may be needed to carry out the study, and shall have the power to provide such office space, supplies and equipment as may be needed.

The commission is directed to report its findings and recommendations to the 106th Legislature.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is as indicated in the emergency preamble.