MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 672

H. P. 507 House of Representatives, February 7, 1973
Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Gauthier of Sanford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Establish a Uniform Program for Educational Leave for State Employees.

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

R. S., T. 5, c. 60, additional. Title 5 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 60 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 60

EDUCATIONAL LEAVE

§ 721. Title

This chapter shall be known as, and may be cited as, the "Maine Educational Leave Act."

§ 722. Declaration of purpose

It is in the public interest and is the policy of the State of Maine to foster and encourage, without State funding, an educational leave program to permit employees of the State to increase knowledge and skills and to improve work techniques and procedures. This would permit the agencies themselves and the citizens of Maine to benefit by what the employee has learned and by what he will impart to others when he returns.

§ 723. Educational Leave Advisory Board

There shall be an Educational Leave Advisory Board to advise and consult with the Department of Personnel to review and authorize all educational leave requests from classified and unclassified state employees for

durations of more than one week. The board shall consist of 3 members as follows: The Director of Personnel who shall serve as chairman of the board, the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services; and one member who shall be appointed for a term of 3 years by the Maine State Employees Association. Members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services.

§ 724. Rules and regulations

The board shall by rule and regulation establish procedures for applying, processing and granting of educational leave to classified and unclassified employees of the State and shall maintain an up-to-date register of employees and their terms of leave and may adopt such other regulations as it finds necessary to administer this chapter.

§ 725. Funds

No state funds shall be used or appropriated by the Legislature for the purpose of this chapter nor shall any employee of the State be compensated with state funds while absent on leave for educational purposes for more than one week. The board may apply for and accept donations and contributions from any other source to assist it in carrying out the purposes of this chapter and shall approve such applications by the agencies of the State, but the same shall be expended and accounted for in the same manner as funds appropriated to it by the Legislature.

§ 726. Report

The board shall make a detailed progress report biennially to the Legislature, together with such recommendations as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

§ 727. Application

In the event that any provision of this chapter is in conflict with the provision of a federal grant or educational leave program, the terms of the federal grant or educational leave program shall prevail.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this Act is reflected in the declaration of purpose under section 722. It is not the purpose of the Legislature to restrict State employees from attending departmental conferences concerned with their department or other educational purposes of less than one week.