MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document   No. 1437

H. P. 1101   House of Representatives, March 13, 1973
  Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.
                                        E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk
  Presented by Mr. Ferris of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Establish a Cooperative Education Support Program.

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

  Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, c. 157, additional. Title 5 of the Revised Statutes is
amended by adding a new chapter 157 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 157

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

§ 1901. Program

  There is established a State Government cooperative education support pro-
gram for the purpose of providing work opportunities in state institutions and
agencies to students enrolled in accredited post-secondary universities, col-
leges or institutes in Maine to be administered by the Department of Finance
and Administration.

§ 1902. Purposes

  1. The purposes of the program are:

  A. to permit state agencies to employ qualified students enrolled in post-
  secondary cooperative education programs without regard to personnel
  count;

  B. To provide students with practical experiences related to their field of
  study which can only be obtained through full-time employment;

  C. To assist students to defray higher education costs;

  D. To lessen the demand for work during the summer months and dis-
  perse it throughout the entire year;

E.   To provide department or agency heads with the opportunity of ob-
serving and evaluating potential employees on the job thus facilitating the
recruitment and selection of personnel to fill state openings;

F.   To stimulate interest in employment in the State of Maine on the part
of college educated students.

§ 1903.   Procedure

There shall be established within the Department of Finance and Adminis-
tration a continuous reserve of money called the Cooperative Education Ac-
count for the purpose of employing students enrolled in cooperative education
programs in accredited colleges, universities or institutes in the State of
Maine. Only programs that require full-time employment for a period of not
less than 10 weeks shall be included.

Appropriate department or agency heads may request the employment of
any such student on a form provided by the Department of Personnel.

Each student must be approved by the institution he attends, the agency
or department head and the Department of Personnel.

It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Personnel to exercise
control over the number of students assigned to a single agency at any given
time.

Upon the approval of the Department of Personnel, the Commissioner of
Finance and Administration or his designee shall release to the state agency
concerned a sum of money sufficient to cover the costs of the employment of
a student for the prescribed length of time.

All students so employed will be required to adhere to the policies cover-
ing the employment of all personnel in the agency.

§ 1904.   Maintenance of Cooperative Education Account

Funds in this account will be carried forward from one fiscal year to the
next.   The Commissioner of Finance and Administration or his designee shall
request from subsequent Legislatures an amount sufficient to replenish the
funds in accordance with estimated needs.   The Commissioner of Finance
and Administration or his designee is authorized to accept gifts, bequests and
endowments for the purposes consistent with this chapter; and to accept fed-
eral, private foundation or other grants and matching funds when determined
to be in the best interest of the program.

Sec. 2.   Appropriation.   There is appropriated from the General Fund to
the Department of Finance and Administration the sum of $80,000 to carry
out the purposes of this Act.   The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1973-74	1974-75
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
All Other	$20,000	$60,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the title.