

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1742

S. P. 556

In Senate, April 3, 1973

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Richardson of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Create the Maine Veterans' Training Facility.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 37-A, c. 2-A, additional. Title 37-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 580 of the public laws of 1971, is amended by adding a new chapter 2-A to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2-A

THE MAINE VETERANS' TRAINING FACILITY

§ 40. **Maine Veterans' Training Facility**

There is created the Maine Veterans' Training Facility which shall be established at some convenient, suitable location in the State, as the board of trustees hereinafter created may determine. The facility shall be used primarily for teaching building trades and other allied trades to eligible students.

§ 41. **Board of trustees**

There is created a Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Training Facility to consist of 11 members as follows: The Adjutant General and the Director of the Bureau of Veterans' Services ex officio and the following to be appointed by the Governor: two persons representative of the interests of labor in the State; 2 persons representative of the interests of management in the State and 5 persons who are representative of the interests of and members of veterans' organizations in the State. Of the trustees first appointed, 3 shall be appointed for a term of one year, 3 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years and 3 shall be appointed for a term of 3 years. Appointments thereafter shall be for terms of 3 years. In the event of a vacancy in office, a successor shall be appointed to complete the unexpired term. Each

trustee shall continue to hold his office until his successor is appointed and qualified. Members of the board of trustees shall serve without compensation except that they shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses in the performance of their duties.

§ 42. Duties of board of trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Training Facility shall have general supervision and administration of the facility and shall, in addition, prescribe the content of the curriculum, promulgate standards for recruitment of students, all of whom shall be honorably discharged veterans of the United States military service. The facility shall be under the direct administrative control and supervision of the Bureau of Veterans' Services.

The Director of the Bureau of Veterans' Services shall employ a superintendent with the approval of the board of trustees, who shall supervise the facility and the training programs and he shall employ all necessary personnel, subject to the Personnel Law. The director may lease or acquire adequate facilities to conduct the training programs at a suitable location to be determined by the board of trustees. The board of trustees may establish reasonable fees for attendance at the facility to defray part of the cost of operation. He may accept such federal funds or grants as may become available in order to carry out the purposes of the facility. The Bureau of Veterans' Services is designated as a sole agency for administering and supervising such federal funds.

§ 43. Course of study

The facility shall offer a complete and comprehensive course of study for eligible students to prepare them for employment in the building and allied trades.

§ 44. Meetings

The board of trustees shall meet at least once in each calendar quarter at a time and place as they shall determine. The board shall meet at the call of the chairman. The board shall organize annually by electing a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary and a treasurer from among its members.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Bureau of Veterans' Services, Maine Veterans' Training Facility, the sum of \$50,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974 and the sum of \$50,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

STATEMENT OF FACT

It is the intent of this legislation to recognize the contributions of honorably discharged veterans of the Armed Forces by providing them with an educational opportunity to learn a trade. Funds will be sought from federal sources, the Veterans' Administration and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, both of which agencies have indicated their positive interest in establishing the facility as a pilot project. Labor, management and veterans' organizations have endorsed the concept, which would furnish a pool of skilled technicians who would be competent in modern building practices and would have the requisite background to be able to advance in the supervisory levels.