

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1757

H. P. 1260

House of Representatives, April 2, 1975

On Motion of Mr. Cooney of Sabattus, referred to the Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Goodwin of So. Berwick.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Register Recreation Administrators.

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA c. 212 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 212

RECREATION ADMINISTRATORS

§ 931. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words shall have the following meanings:

1. Board. "Board" means the State Board of Registration for Recreation Administrators, established under this chapter.
2. Department. "Department" means the Department of Conservation.
3. Full time. "Full time" means at least 35 hours of paid employment per week in the public recreation services.
4. Recreation administrator. "Recreation administrator" means the full-time executive head or assistant to the executive head administering public recreation services, or curriculum or both.

§ 932. State Board of Registration for Recreation Administrators

1. Board created. A State Board of Registration for Recreation Administrators is created in the department and consists of the community recreation specialist of the Department of Conservation, 3 members who shall be recreation professionals, 2 citizens at-large and one municipal official.

2. Membership conditions; terms. Each member of the board shall be a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State. The 3 members of the board who are required by subsection 1 to be recreation professionals shall have been engaged in the recreation profession for not less than 5 years and shall be eligible for registration under this chapter. The term of office of each member of the board shall be for 3 years, except that of the members first appointed, 2 shall be appointed for terms of one year, 2 for 2 years and 2 for 3 years. The Governor shall appoint all members of the board except the community recreation specialist of the Department of Conservation who shall be an ex officio member. The Governor shall fill any vacancy on the board for an unexpired term.

§ 933. Powers and duties

1. Meetings. The board shall hold a regular annual meeting at which it shall elect from its membership a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary. The board may hold other regular meetings and special meetings at such times as the rules of the board shall provide or upon call of the chairman.

2. Rules and regulations. The board may make any rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, as may be necessary in the performance of its duties. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of its members.

3. Classification and registration of professionals. The board may classify and warrant registered public recreation professionals as to their qualifications for various fields of specialization, establish standards and criteria for specialty classifications and conduct qualifying examinations.

4. Examinations. The board shall examine all applicants for registration for recreation professionals. The board may require the applicant to take a written or oral examination, or both. The board shall review all requests for certification and instruct the department to issue certificates to those applicants who have qualified.

5. Provisional registration. The board may issue provisional registration to an applicant who does not meet the requirements for full registration, if he submits evidence that all requirements can be met within a 3-year period from date of application.

6. Licensing of certain applicants. An applicant having at least one year of full-time recreation experience as of the effective date of this Act shall, upon application, be licensed in the category in which he is serving. This application process shall be completed within 90 days from the effective date of this Act.

§ 934. Duties of the department

The department shall, at the direction of the board, issue appropriate certificates of registration to those applicants who have fulfilled the qualifications of this chapter.

§ 935. Registration period and procedures; fee; renewal

1. Applicant. A person to whom a certificate is issued and who desires to represent himself to be a registered recreation professional, shall register for this purpose with the board.

2. Registration valid for 2-year period. The registration shall be for a 2-year period which shall begin on January 1st and shall end on December 31st of the following year.

3. Notification that renewal is required. On or before September 1st preceding the registration period, the board shall mail to each individual who was registered for the preceding period a renewal registration application.

4. Fee. The fee for initial and renewal registration shall be set by the board and shall be treated in accordance with the terms of Title 5, section 151. Moneys generated by fees under this section shall be paid into the General Fund.

§ 936. Enforcement

1. Power to suspend or revoke registration. The certificate of a registered recreation professional may be suspended or revoked by the board for just cause, after notice and hearing.

2. Chapter not to be construed as limiting. This chapter shall not be construed to limit the activities, services and use of official titles by any person, but no title shall be used which includes the words "registered recreation administrator or director" by a person not qualified to do so under this chapter.

3. Only registered recreation administrators to be hired. An employer shall not hire a person as a recreation administrator who is not registered pursuant to this chapter. Provision shall be made by the board pursuant to section 933, subsection 3 to allow for the registration of applicants not specifically trained for recreation, in cases where an employer may have difficulty securing the services of a registered recreation administrator.

§ 937. Appeals

Appeals from order of the board shall be taken in the Superior Court of Kennebec County pursuant to Rule 80B of the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to establish the qualifications of persons employed in the field of public recreation to the end that the public shall not be improperly served by nonprofessional and unqualified recreation employees and that the public shall be protected against persons not certified as professional public recreation administrators.