

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 2116

H. P. 1929

House of Representatives, January 27, 1976

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Rolde of York.

Cosponsor: Mr. Tyndale of Kennebunkport.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

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**AN ACT to Grant the Power to Confer Graduate Degrees of  
Doctor of Osteopathy to St. Francis College of Biddeford.**

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

P&SL 1953, c. 123, § 3 is enacted to read:

Sec. 3. Additional powers. Said corporation is further empowered and authorized to establish, maintain and conduct at Biddeford within this State, in addition to the powers already granted it by chapter 123 of the private and special laws of 1953, a Graduate School of Medicine offering instruction in the medical sciences and associated disciplines in a 4-year professional curriculum leading to the graduate degree of Doctor of Osteopathy — D.O., and to grant and confer at and through said St. Francis College said graduate degree of Doctor of Osteopathy. The power to grant graduate degrees of Doctor of Osteopathy may be exercised only upon satisfactory evaluation by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services and upon notification that the Graduate School of Medicine has been officially accredited by the American Osteopathic Association.

STATEMENT OF FACT

St. Francis College in Biddeford, Maine, as part of its new educational program oriented to human services and life sciences, plans to establish a graduate level college of osteopathic medicine. In order to fulfill the requirements

for American Osteopathic Association accreditation and for federal start-up grant funding in time to open the college in the fall of 1977, it is necessary for St. Francis College to achieve the legal status to award the Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.) Degree by the summer of 1976. To meet this timetable, it is necessary to have an appropriate law enacted in the forthcoming special session of the Legislature.

The establishment of this medical college, dedicated to the training of primary health care physicians, will help meet the underserved needs of family health care in Maine and New England.