

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

(Filing No. H-1289)

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 760, L.D. 2310, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide Grants and Loans for Health Education."

Amend said Bill by striking out all of the title and inserting in place thereof the following:

'AN ACT Concerning Postgraduate Education in the Field of Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. 20 MRSA c. 304 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 304

OUT-OF-STATE POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

§2271. Legislative intent

It is the intent of the Legislature to acquire, to the greatest extent possible, the admission of qualified Maine residents to out-of-state educational institutions providing programs of instruction leading to the acquisition of doctoral degrees in medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

It is further the intent of this Legislature to provide an inducement to Maine residents, afforded an opportunity to be educated in the aforementioned programs, to return to Maine to practice their professions at the conclusion of their formal education.

§2272. Definition of state contract student

For purposes of this chapter, any Maine resident who is enrolled in an educational program at an out-of-state educational institution for which program the State has entered into a con-

tractual arrangement with the institution and, under such arrangement, the State expends funds in return for a guarantee on the part of the institution that student positions will be made available to Maine residents, shall be referred to as a state contract student.

§2273. Agreement of state contract student with commissioner

Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, any state contract student who commences his professional education on or after the 1976-77 academic year shall, as a condition precedent to the commencement of such education, enter into an agreement with the State under which the student will agree that upon the conclusion of his professional education, including internship, residency and obligated military service, he will return to the State of Maine and practice his profession, upon being duly licensed by the State of Maine. This student shall further agree that in the event he fails to practice his profession within the State for a period of 4 years, he shall become obligated to pay to the State an amount of money equal to the amount expended by the State in purchasing the student position which he occupied as a state contract student. This amount shall be payable in 20 annual, equal installments without interest and such installment payments shall commence one year following the commencement of out-of-state practice by the state contract student, provided \leftarrow that an amount equal to 1/4 of that indebtedness as determined above shall be forgiven for each year which the state contract student practices his profession in the State.

§2274. Commissioner to secure state contract student positions

The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall directly, or through the New England Board of Higher Education, negotiate with out-of-state educational institutions to secure positions for state contract students in the fields of medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine to the extent funds are appropriated or authorized.

§2275. Contractual agreement

The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall prepare contractual agreements between the State and each state contract student, which agreements shall set forth the terms and conditions set forth in section 2273 and each state contract student falling within the purview of section 2273 shall be required to execute such an agreement prior to commencing such professional education. This agreement shall be in a form approved by the Attorney General. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services is authorized to execute such agreements on behalf of the State.

Sec. 2. Purchase of student positions at University of Medical School Vermont/and Tufts University Medical School. The Department of Educational and Cultural Services is authorized to expend such amounts of money as are necessary to purchase additional student positions at the University of Vermont Medical School not to exceed 15 new positions and at Tufts University Medical School, not to exceed 20 positions, in order to increase the number of

Maine residents receiving medical education during fiscal year 1976-77.

Funds to provide the amounts necessary to secure these student positions may be drawn only from accounts within any department in which cost savings can be made which were not identified as of April 14, 1976 or from unused funds currently appropriated for this purpose.

Statement of Fact

This amendment deletes all of the language of the bill and establishes instead a requirement that a student receiving a professional education as a dentist, physician or veterinarian in a school with which the State has contracted return to Maine to practice his profession or reimburse the State for the funds expended.

Secondly, the amendment authorizes the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to purchase additional seats at the University of Vermont Medical School and Tufts University Medical School if funds for such seats can be secured from unidentified cost savings in other accounts of other state departments.

Filed by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
4/14/76

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