

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1958

S. P. 626

Office of the Secretary of the Senate

The Committee on Education suggested. Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 24 and 1700 ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Katz of Kennebec

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

AN ACT Relating to Post-graduate Education in the Field of Medicine, Dentistry,
Optometry and Veterinary Medicine.

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

20 MRSA § 2273, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 769, § 1 and as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 335, § 3 and chapter 579, Section L, § 1 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2273. Agreement of state contract student with the state; state capitation payment;
tuition grants

1. Agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any state contract student commencing his professional education on or after September of 1978 shall, as a condition precedent to the commencement of the education, enter into an agreement with the State under which the student shall agree to pay tuition to the institution and shall also agree that, upon the conclusion of his professional education, including internship, residency and obligated military service, he shall pay the State an amount of money equal to the state capitation payment expended by the State in purchasing the student position which he occupied as a state contract student. This amount shall be payable in not more than 20 annual installments with no interest and the installment payments shall commence at such time as the state contract student concludes his professional education under rules promulgated by the commissioner. The agreement between the state contract student and the State shall provide that an amount equal to 1/4 of the indebtedness, as determined by this subsection, shall be forgiven for each year which the state contract student practices his profession within the State.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to repeal the present law which requires even those medical students who return to Maine to practice to pay back 80% of the amount expended by the State under the "compact." Students who return to Maine should not be required to repay the amount of money which the State has invested in their education since there will then be no incentive for a student to return. The student's returning to Maine should be sufficient repayment for the amount of money invested by the State in his or her education.