

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2055

S. P. 667

In Senate, January 11, 1978

The Committee on Education Suggested, Approved by Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 25.

MAY M. ROSS, SECRETARY

Presented by Senator Speers of Kennebec

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Provide a \$250,000 Grant to the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine.

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

Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act:

1978-79

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES,
DEPARTMENT OF

Education — Grant

All Other

\$250,000

Provides a capital grant to the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine to be used to complete its preparations before September, 1978 for its first class of students.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The osteopathic profession in New England, recognizing the need for a regional medical college, has supported the establishment of the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine at St. Francis College in Biddeford, Maine. The medical school has been pre-

accredited by the American Osteopathic Association for the Admission of its first class of 36 students in 1978. The authority to grant degrees was approved by the 107th Legislature.

Dedicated to the training of general practice physicians, the college anticipates reaching full capacity and achieving a financially self-sustaining status in 3 years, with an entry of 60 osteopathic medical students each year.

Construction of the medical school building is underway, a 10,000 volume medical library is being housed in the nearby St. Francis College Library, and clinical training programs are arranged with 5 osteopathic hospitals in New England, 3 of which are in Maine. The college also plans clinical training programs in a system of D. O. offices and rural health centers in the region.

The New England College of Osteopathic Medicine makes this one-time request for a capital grant from the State in order to complete its preparations for the first class of students before September, 1978.

In its role as a medical school for the osteopathic profession in New England, the college is requesting similar capital support of other New England states and is seeking limited financial support from the Federal Government.