

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

(EMERGENCY)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

---

---

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 1263**

H. P. 1022

House of Representatives, March 16, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Rolde of York.

Cosponsors: Mr. Birt of East Millinocket, Mrs. Beaulieu of Portland and Mrs. Gowen of Standish.

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

---

**AN ACT to Create a Special Commission to Revise the Procedures for Teacher Certification.**

---

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, procedures for certifying teachers are vital to assure the quality of education in Maine schools; and

Whereas, existing procedures require revision; and

Whereas, the public interest requires the establishment of a special commission to carry out this revision; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1. Special commission established.** There is established a "Special Commission to review and make Recommendations Concerning the Procedures for Teacher Certification," which shall be known as the "commission."

**Sec. 2. Membership; appointment.** The commission shall be composed of 12 members who shall be designated and appointed as follows:

**1. Maine Teachers Association.** Three elementary or secondary school teachers, appointed by the Governor from a list submitted by the Maine Teachers Association;

**2. Appointed by the department.** One member representing the Department of Educational and Cultural Services appointed by the department;

**3. Appointed by the association.** One member representing Maine School Management Association, appointed by the association;

**4. Board of trustees.** One member representing the University of Maine faculty, School of Education, appointed by the board of trustees;

**5. President of the Senate.** One member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;

**6. Speaker of the House.** Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

**7. Governor.** Three public members, who have children currently enrolled in elementary or secondary schools, appointed by the Governor.

**Sec. 3. Duties.** The commission shall:

**1. Existing teacher certification procedures.** Review the existing procedures for certifying teachers;

**2. Other methods of certifying teachers.** Review methods of certifying teachers in other jurisdictions;

**3. Other studies.** Make any other studies necessary to fully revise the existing certification procedures; and

**4. Recommendations.** Report its recommendations, including any legislation, for revising teacher certification procedures to the Second Regular Session of the 109th Legislature.

**Sec. 4. Meetings; officers, procedures.** Members of the commission shall be appointed in a timely manner and shall hold an organizational meeting within 30 days after the adjournment of the Legislature at the call of the Chairman of the Legislative Council, who shall preside until a permanent chairman is elected.

**1. Officers.** At this meeting the commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from within the membership.

**2. Procedures.** The commission shall adopt any rules necessary to carry out its duties. The commission shall maintain minutes of its meetings and shall make periodic reports to the Legislative Council and the Governor.

**Sec. 5. Staff.** The commission is authorized to employ any qualified staff needed to carry out its duties.

**Sec. 6. Public hearings.** The commission is authorized to conduct public hearings as it deems necessary.

**Sec. 7. Reimbursement for expenses.** Legislators shall receive the customary per diem allowance for legislative services. Other members of the commission shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses in attending meetings, procuring supplies, and for other related and necessary expenditures, including the costs of substitute teachers who may have to be hired to enable members to attend meetings.

**Sec. 8. Appropriation.** The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1979-80

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES,  
DEPARTMENT OF

All Other

\$20,000

These funds shall not lapse but shall be carried forward in a continuous carrying account until the purposes of this Act are carried out.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to establish a commission to revise the procedures for the certification of teachers. These are funds in the current services budget allocated for review of teacher certification. These funds could be used to carry out the purposes of this Act.