

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 713

H. P. 632

House of Representatives, February 9, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Soulas of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to the Licensing of Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters.

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA § 1658-I, sub-§ 1, ¶C, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 463, § 3, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

C. Has a bachelor's degree from a recognized college or university; and

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA § 1658-I, sub-§ 2, 3rd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 463, § 3, is repealed as follows:

~~The examination administered as directed by the board constituting standards for licensing shall not be conducted in such a manner that college training be required in order to pass the examination~~

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA § 1658-M, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 463, § 3, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

No biennial renewal certificate may be issued by the board during 1982 and any following year until such time as the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the board that during the 2 years preceding his application for renewal, he has participated in not fewer than 16 hours of courses of continuing education in fitting and dealing in hearing aids offered by an institution approved by the board. In the initial 2 years of the application of this paragraph, the board may reduce the number of hours of participation required based upon the number of days this

paragraph is in effect during those initial 2 years. The board may make exceptions from the operation of this paragraph in emergency or hardship cases.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA § 1660, sub-§ 1, ¶ K, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 463, § 3, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

K. To, during a 2-year period beginning in January 1982, redistribute the expiration dates of the existing licenses so that an equal number expire in each month of even-numbered years, so that all license renewals will occur in the same year;

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires that applicants for a hearing aid dealers license hold a bachelor's degree; that licensees attend 16 hours of continuing education every 2 years; and that all license renewals occur during the same year.