

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1083

6  
7 H.P. 792

House of Representatives, March 7, 1983

8 Submitted by the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation  
pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

9 Speaker laid before the House and on Motion of Representative Nelson of  
10 Portland, referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence  
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Bost of Orono.

11 Cosponsors: Senator Hayes of Penobscot and Representative Manning of  
Portland.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE  
16

17 AN ACT to Promote the Training of  
18 Psychologists through the Cooperative  
19 Education Support Program.  
20

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

23 5 MRSA §1903, as amended by PL 1975, c. 766, §4,  
24 is further amended to read:

25 §1903. Procedure

26 The employment of students enrolled in  
27 cooperative education programs in approved colleges,  
28 universities or institutes in the State of Maine is  
29 hereby authorized. Appropriate department, agency or  
30 institution heads may employ such these students  
31 through the use of funds resulting from unfilled  
32 positions in their personal services budgets.

1           Only cooperative education programs that require  
2 full-time employment for a period of not less than 10  
3 weeks shall be included.

4           Each student must be approved by the institution  
5 he attends and the agency, department or institution  
6 head.

7           Appropriate department, agency or institution  
8 heads may request the employment of cooperative edu-  
9 cation students on a form provided by the Department  
10 of Personnel. Approval by the State Commissioner of  
11 Personnel Commissioner and the State Budget Officer  
12 will constitute approval for a student to be  
13 employed. Only cooperative education programs that  
14 require full-time employment for a period of 10 weeks  
15 shall be included. Cooperative education students  
16 will be classified as project employees and will be  
17 governed by all policies and entitled to all rights  
18 and privileges afforded such those employees, except  
19 that they shall be paid at the prevailing minimum  
20 wage.

21           The restrictions regarding full-time employment  
22 and payment at minimum wage shall not apply to the  
23 cooperative education support program between the  
24 Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation  
25 and the University of Maine for the training of psy-  
26 chologists.

27   STATEMENT OF FACT

28           The cooperative education support program permits  
29 state agencies to employ qualified students enrolled  
30 in post-secondary cooperative education programs  
31 without regard to personnel count. Present restric-  
32 tions in this program in the areas of full-time  
33 employment and compensation prohibit the use of this  
34 program by the Department of Mental Health and Mental  
35 Retardation to support and train graduate students in  
36 psychology. This bill allows students to work less  
37 than full time during the academic year and be paid  
38 at a level commensurate with their skills. The use of  
39 this program provides students with practical experi-  
40 ences related to their field of study and provides

1 the department and agency heads the opportunity to  
2 observe and evaluate potential employees, thus  
3 facilitating the recruitment and selection of psy-  
4 chologists.

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