

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)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 803

H.P. 592 House of Representatives, March 17, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative HOGLUND of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives FOSS of Yarmouth, CROWLEY
of Stockton Springs, and Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Create the Post-secondary
Enrollment Options Act for 11th and 12th
Grade Students.

1
2
3
4

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

7 .20-A MRSA c. 208 is enacted to read:

8

CHAPTER 208

9

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS ACT

10

§4751. Citation

11
12

This chapter may be cited as the "Post-secondary
Enrollment Options Act."

1 §4752. Eligible post-secondary institutions

2 For purposes of this chapter, an "eligible insti-
3 tution" means a public 2-year or 4-year
4 post-secondary institution. "Course" means a course
5 or program.

6 §4753. Authorization; notification

7 An 11th or 12th grade pupil may apply to an eli-
8 gible institution, as defined in section 4752, to al-
9 low the pupil to enroll in nonsectarian courses or
10 programs offered at that post-secondary institution.
11 If an institution accepts a secondary pupil for en-
12 rollment under this section, the institution shall
13 send written notice to the pupil, the pupil's school
14 district and the Commissioner of Educational and Cul-
15 tural Services, within 10 days of acceptance. The
16 notice shall indicate the course and hours of enroll-
17 ment of that pupil.

18 §4754. Counseling

19 To the extent possible, the school district shall
20 provide counseling services to pupils and their par-
21 ents or guardians before the pupils enroll in courses
22 under this section. The district shall provide in-
23 formation on the program as outlined by department
24 guidelines and assist the pupil in developing a plan
25 based on the pupil's ability to complete his high
26 school graduation requirements. The person providing
27 the counseling shall encourage pupils and their par-
28 ents or guardians to use available counseling ser-
29 vices at the post-secondary institutions before the
30 quarter or semester of enrollment to ensure that an-
31 ticipated plans are appropriate.

32 §4755. Dissemination of information; notification of
33 intention to enroll

34 By March 1st of each year, a school district
35 shall provide general information about the program
36 to all pupils in grades 10, 11 and 12. To assist the
37 district in planning, a pupil shall inform the dis-
38 trict by March 30th of each year of the pupil's in-
39 tention to enroll in post-secondary courses during the
40 following school year. A pupil is not bound by noti-
41 fying or not notifying the district by March 30th.

1 §4756. Credits

2 1. Credit upon completion. A school district
3 shall grant academic credit to a pupil enrolled in a
4 course under this chapter if the pupil successfully
5 completes the course attended.

6 A. If no comparable course is offered by the
7 district, the State Board of Education shall de-
8 termine the number of credits that will be
9 granted to a pupil who successfully completes and
10 passes the course.

11 B. If a comparable course is offered by the dis-
12 trict, the school board shall grant a comparable
13 number of credits to the pupil.

14 C. If there is a dispute between the district
15 and the pupil regarding the number of credits
16 granted for a particular course, the pupil may
17 appeal the school board's decision to the State
18 Board of Education. The state board's decision
19 regarding the number of credits shall be final.

20 2. Credit toward degree. The credits granted to
21 a pupil shall be counted toward the graduation re-
22 quirements and subject area requirements of the
23 school district, as well as toward a degree at the
24 post-secondary institution. Evidence of successful
25 completion of each course and credits granted shall
26 be included in the pupil's secondary school record.

27 §4757. Financial arrangement

28 At the end of each school year, the Department of
29 Educational and Cultural Services shall pay the tui-
30 tion reimbursement amount within 30 days to the
31 post-secondary institution that has enrolled pupils
32 under this Act.

33 1. Total reimbursement amount. "Total reim-
34 bursement amount" means the actual cost of tuition,
35 textbooks, materials and fees directly related to the
36 course charged for the secondary pupil enrolling in a
37 course under this Act. The dollars used shall come
38 from the state per pupil allocation for each partici-
39 parting pupil and shall be proportional to the number

1 of courses taken. Reimbursement shall not exceed 50%
2 of the state per pupil allocation for a participating
3 pupil unless that pupil is attending the
4 post-secondary institution full time under which cir-
5 cumstances the total state per pupil allocation shall
6 be available for reimbursement. All the unexpended
7 state per pupil allocation for a participating pupil
8 shall remain with the pupil's school district.

9 §4758. Fees; textbooks; materials

10 A post-secondary institution that receives reim-
11 bursement for a pupil under section 4757 may not
12 charge that pupil for fees, textbooks, materials or
13 other necessary costs of the course in which the pu-
14 pil is enrolled, except for equipment purchased by
15 the pupil that becomes the property of the pupil.

16 §4759. Transportation

17 A parent or guardian of a pupil attending a
18 post-secondary institution under this chapter may ap-
19 ply to the pupil's district of residence for reim-
20 bursement for transporting the pupil between the sec-
21 ondary school in which the pupil is enrolled and the
22 post-secondary institution that the pupil attends.
23 The State Board of Education shall establish guide-
24 lines for providing state aid to districts to reim-
25 burse the parent or guardian for the necessary trans-
26 portation costs, which shall be based on financial
27 need. The State shall pay aid to the district ac-
28 ording to the guidelines established under this sec-
29 tion.

30 §4760. Limit; state obligation

31 Sections 4757 to 4759 do not apply to any
32 post-secondary courses in which a pupil is enrolled
33 in addition to being enrolled full time in that
34 pupil's district.

35 §4761. Space; assistance

36 The department shall make available such reason-
37 able office space, clerical assistance and other sup-
38 port to insure that the purposes of this chapter will
39 be carried out.

1 §4762. Guidelines; implementation

2 The commissioner shall promulgate guidelines and
3 appoint a task force to aid in the implementation of
4 this Act.

5 §4763. Evaluation

6 The Department of Educational and Cultural Ser-
7 vices in consultation with public post-secondary sys-
8 tems shall collect and evaluate information about the
9 implementation of the Act established under this
10 chapter. By January 15, 1989, the commissioner shall
11 submit a report to the joint standing committee of
12 the Legislature having jurisdiction over education on
13 the implementation of this Act.

14 STATEMENT OF FACT

15 The purpose of this bill is to promote rigorous
16 academic pursuits and to provide a wider variety of
17 options to high school pupils by encouraging and en-
18 abling secondary pupils to enroll full time or part
19 time in nonsectarian courses in eligible
20 post-secondary institutions.

21

0467030587