

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 155

H.P. 112

House of Representatives, January 22, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

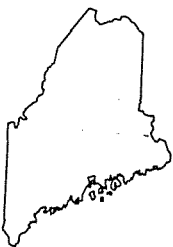
Presented by Representative PARADIS of Frenchville.

Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senator ESTES of York and Representative AULT of Wayne.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Establish a Statewide Area Health Education Centers System.



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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§7-B is enacted to read:

<u>7-B.</u>	<u>Maine Area</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>20-A MRSA</u>
<u>Education</u>	<u>Health</u>	<u>Only</u>	<u>§12856</u>
	<u>Education</u>		
	<u>Centers</u>		
	<u>Commission</u>		

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA c. 435 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 435

MAINE AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS SYSTEM

§12851. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Commission. "Commission" means the Maine Area Health Education Centers Commission established pursuant to section 12856.

2. Director. "Director" means the Director of the Maine Area Health Education Centers System.

3. Regional center. "Regional center" means a community-based area health education center that exists on the effective date of this chapter or that is designated in accordance with section 12857.

4. System. "System" means the Maine Area Health Education Centers System.

§12852. Establishment

The Finance Authority of Maine shall establish the Maine Area Health Education Centers System based at a college of medicine or osteopathic medicine in the State. The system must consist of a statewide coordinating office located at the college, a statewide center for continuing education in the health professions and regional centers.

§12853. Mission

The mission of the system is to address the State's health care personnel needs, particularly for those areas and populations that require additional health care services. The

2 system shall develop and implement programs that: assist health
3 profession education programs to meet the State's health
4 students from inadequately served areas and insufficiently
5 represented populations; encourage health professionals to
6 establish and maintain practices in inadequately served areas;
7 and otherwise enhance the ability of the State to employ its
8 health personnel resources effectively and improve its health
9 care services.

10 **§12854. System responsibilities**

11 The system shall:

12
13 **1. Recruitment and retention.** Develop and implement
14 strategies that support the efforts of state and private agencies
15 to enhance recruitment and retention of health professionals in
16 inadequately served areas of the State;

17
18 **2. Recruitment of state residents.** Develop and implement a
19 statewide plan for enhancing the recruitment of state residents
20 into health professions, especially those residents who are
21 disadvantaged or members of insufficiently represented
22 populations;

23
24 **3. Needs assessment.** Conduct statewide studies, establish
25 data management mechanisms and undertake any other activities
26 that improve the State's ability to assess the need for health
27 professionals and health profession education;

28
29 **4. Clinical and continuing education.** Develop a statewide
30 plan for conducting clinical and continuing education programs
31 for health professionals that use community-based and culturally
32 appropriate curricula;

33
34 **5. Contracts.** Establish contractual relationships to carry
35 out system plans with health profession education programs, the
36 statewide center for continuing education in the health
37 professions, and regional centers;

38
39 **6. Assistance to regional centers.** Provide technical and
40 administrative services to the regional centers and the statewide
41 center for continuing education in the health professions and
42 coordinate their efforts to ensure effective and efficient
43 utilization of state resources in carrying out system plans;

44
45 **7. System funds.** Manage system funds in accordance with
46 policies developed under this chapter and develop and implement
47 plans to raise public and private funds to promote the goals of
48 the system;

2 8. Coordination. Coordinate the efforts of the system with
state and federal health and education initiatives; and

4 9. Annual report. Beginning in 1992, submit a written
report on or before November 15th of each year to the Governor,
6 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
Representatives and the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance
8 Authority of Maine. The report must include the following:

10 A. The fiscal status of the system and the status of
contracts with regional centers and other system contractors;

12 B. Information regarding education, outreach and training
14 programs;

16 C. Information regarding placement of health care personnel
18 in inadequately served areas;

20 D. An assessment of system accomplishments; and

22 E. Recommended legislation.

24 §12855. Director

26 The dean of the college that is designated pursuant to
section 12852 shall appoint a system director with the advice and
28 consent of the commission. The director is responsible for the
administration of the system in accordance with policies
30 established under this chapter. The director shall develop a
written agreement between the college and the commission that
32 specifies the system management and control responsibilities of
the statewide coordinating office.

34 §12856. Maine Area Health Education Centers Commission

36 The Maine Area Health Education Centers Commission, as
38 established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 7-B, is the
governing body of the system.

40 1. Duties. The commission shall:

42 A. Establish priorities that direct the system's attention
44 to inadequately served areas and populations;

46 B. Designate regions for the development of new regional
centers;

48 C. Facilitate the coordination of system programming with
50 other appropriate state health and education initiatives; and

52 D. Allocate state resources within the system.

2 2. Membership. The commission's members are:

4 A. The director of the division of higher education
services in the Department of Education;

6 B. The director of the division of health planning in the
Department of Human Services;

8 C. The deputy director for planning in the Department of
Labor;

10 D. One member from a health profession education program
within the University of Maine System, appointed by the
Chancellor of the University of Maine System;

12 E. The chair of the statewide center for continuing
education in the health professions or the chair's designee;

14 F. One member from a health profession education program
within the Maine Technical College System, appointed by the
Executive Director of the Maine Technical College System;

16 G. One member of an association of family practice
residency directors, nominated by the association and
appointed by the Governor;

18 H. The chair of each regional center or the chair's
designee;

20 I. The Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of
Maine or the chief executive officer's designee;

22 J. One member from a health profession education program
within a private institution of higher education in the
State, but not from the college designated pursuant to
section 12852, appointed by the president of a state
association of independent colleges;

24 K. The dean of the college designated pursuant to section
12852; and

26 L. Two members of the public who are knowledgeable about
the delivery of health care in the State, appointed by the
Governor.

28 3. Terms of office. Appointed members serve at the
pleasure of those who have the authority to appoint them except
that the Governor's appointees serve for terms of 3 years. The
Governor's appointees may be reappointed to subsequent terms.

30 4. Chair. The Chief Executive Officer of the Finance
Authority of Maine shall call the first meeting of the commission

2 and the commission shall elect a chair. The commission shall
3 elect a chair annually.

4 5. Staff. The director or the director's designee shall
5 provide staff assistance to the commission.

6 6. Expenses. Members are entitled to reimbursement for
7 expenses in accordance with Title 5, chapter 379.

10 **§12857. Regional area health education centers; statewide**
11 **center for continuing education in health professions**

12 The commission may designate regional centers and may
13 authorize the director to contract with regional centers, the
14 statewide center for continuing education in the health
15 professions and other providers to carry out the purposes of this
16 chapter.

17 Each regional center is an autonomous unit of the system.
18 Each regional center is exempt from federal income taxation under
19 the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Section 501(a),
20 pursuant to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986,
21 Section 501(c)(3). Each regional center shall have a governing
22 board that includes a balance of health care providers or health
23 profession educators and individuals who reflect the ethnic,
24 cultural and geographical characteristics of the regional
25 center's service area.

26 Regional centers and the statewide center for continuing
27 education in the health professions are responsible to the system
28 only for the programs and initiatives they agree to provide
29 through contracts with the system and may develop initiatives,
30 programs and contracts with other public and private agencies and
31 educational institutions.

32 **§12858. Relationship of Maine Area Health Education Centers**
33 **System to state health profession scholarship and**
34 **loan programs**

35 The system shall cooperate with health profession students
36 and programs that receive state support through the Finance
37 Authority of Maine or other state entities. The system may
38 provide clinical training and other support to those students and
39 programs as appropriate.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

53 This bill formally links previously established components
54 of Maine's health education network to create the Maine Area
55 Health Education Centers System. The system, created under the
56 auspices of the Finance Authority of Maine and governed by the
57 Maine Area Health Education Centers Commission, is responsible

for addressing the State's health care personnel needs,
2 particularly for areas and populations that need additional
health care services. Present efforts in this area are
4 fragmented and are threatened by diminished federal funding.