

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 677

H.P. 483

House of Representatives, February 20, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

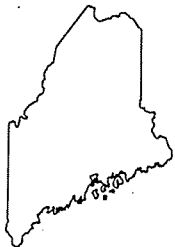
Presented by Representative O'DEA of Orono.

Cosponsored by Representative CATHCART of Orono.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**An Act to Establish an Office of the Ombudsman at each Campus of the
University of Maine System.**



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

4 P&SL 1865, c. 532, §8-B is enacted to read:

6 Section 8-B. Office of ombudsman. The trustees shall
8 establish an office of the ombudsman at each campus of the
10 University of Maine System to assist any student, former student,
12 faculty or staff member in the procurement of a just settlement
14 of a grievance or complaint. The president of each campus of the
16 University of Maine System shall appoint an ombudsman upon
18 recommendation of a campus selection committee consisting of 3
20 faculty members, 3 students and the dean of students. Each
22 ombudsman must be a faculty member of the University of Maine
24 System and may receive released time and clerical support for the
26 purpose of performing the duties of the office. Each ombudsman
28 is appointed for a term of 2 years and may serve no more than 2
30 consecutive terms. An ombudsman may be removed only upon a 2/3
32 vote of the faculty senate and a 2/3 vote of the student senate.

34 Each office of the ombudsman is independent of all existing
36 administrative structures of the University of Maine System and
38 performs the following functions:

40 1. At the request of any student, former student, faculty
42 or staff member, investigates any grievance or complaint against
44 the University of Maine System, any person in the University of
46 Maine System exercising authority or any student, former student,
48 faculty or staff member;

50 2. Serves as an information source for the University of
52 Maine System concerning the right to pursue and the
54 responsibility and procedure for pursuing a grievance or
56 complaint;

58 3. Reports findings and recommendations to all appropriate
60 individuals and groups; and

62 4. Makes an annual report to the president of that campus,
64 faculty senate and student senate concerning the disposition of
66 all matters referred to the office of the ombudsman.

42 STATEMENT OF FACT

44 This bill establishes an ombudsman office at each campus of
46 the University of Maine System for the purpose of investigating
complaints or grievances brought by students, faculty or staff.