MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 1994

S.P. 795

In Senate, January 8, 1992

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CLEVELAND of Androscoggin

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Regarding the Repayment of Blaine House Scholarships.



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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §12501, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. F, §§1 and 2, is amended to read:

6. Return service. "Return service" means teacher service in public elementary and secondary schools in Maine or a Maine private school approved for tuition purposes for a full school year or teacher service of a secular nature only in a nonpublic sectarian elementary or secondary school.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §12507, first ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 698, §37 and affected by §76, is further amended to read:

Each recipient of a loan may cancel the total amount of the loan by completing 4 years of return services—in—the—public schools—or—private—schools—approved—for—tuition—purposes—in—the State service. The repayment period shall—be is 2 years if return service is performed in underserved subject areas or in geographically isolated areas as determined by the commissioner. Return service may also cancel the loan on a proportional basis, reducing the total amount of the debt by 25% for each year of return service. Return service for this purpose shall must be performed within 5 years of graduation from the institution of higher education. Failure to fulfill the return service option will—necessitate necessitates repayment to the authority as follows.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA \$12508, first \P , as amended by PL 1991, c. 553, \$7, is further amended to read:

Each recipient of a loan designated for teachers pursuing graduate study or continuing education or for students pursuing postbaccalaureate teacher certification may cancel the total amount of the loan by completing 2 years of return service in—the public—schools—or—private—schools—approved—for—tuition—purposes in—the—State. The repayment period is one year if return service is performed in underserved subject areas or in geographically isolated areas as determined by the commissioner. Return service may also cancel the loan on a proportional basis, reducing the total amount of the debt by 50% for each year of return service. Return service for this purpose must be performed within 3 years of graduation from the institution of higher education or completion of the course or courses for which the funds were given. Failure to fulfill the return service option will necessitate necessitates repayment to the authority as follows.

STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill amends the definition of "return service" under the Blaine House Scholars and Financial Assistance Program and amends the language on repayment of loans from that program. The bill operates to allow repayment of those loans through return service in a nonpublic sectarian elementary or secondary school if the teacher service is of a secular nature only.