

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

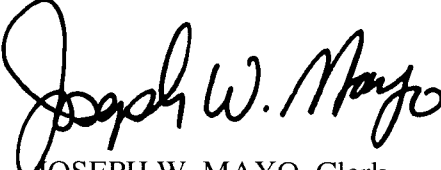
No. 1033

H.P. 759

House of Representatives, March 28, 1995

An Act Relating to the Renewal of a Teacher Certificate That Has Lapsed for More Than 5 Years.

Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Vassalboro.
Cosponsored by Representative: AULT of Wayne, Senators: AMERO of Cumberland, ESTY of Cumberland, SMALL of Sagadahoc.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13013**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 435, §5,
4 is further amended to read:

6 **§13013. Professional teacher certificate**

8 **1. Definition.** A professional teacher certificate is a
10 renewable certificate issued to an individual who has held a
12 provisional certificate and has met the qualifications of this
14 section, except as provided in subsection 2-A, paragraph A-1 or B.

16 **2-A. Qualifications.** State board rules governing the
18 qualifications for a professional teacher certificate must
20 require that the certificate may only be issued to an applicant
22 who, at a minimum, either:

24 A. Holds a provisional teacher certificate and, has taught
26 in a classroom for 2 academic years and has received a
28 recommendation to the commissioner by an approved support
30 system pursuant to section 13015 or has held a professional
32 teacher certificate that has lapsed within the last 5
34 years. ~~In this case an applicant must receive a~~
36 ~~recommendation to the commissioner by an approved support~~
38 ~~system pursuant to section 13015; or~~

40 A-1. Has recently completed 12 credit hours of approved
42 study, has met entry level standards and has held either a
44 professional teacher certificate that expired more than 5
46 years prior to the application date or a provisional teacher
48 certificate issued prior to July 1, 1988 that expired 5
50 years prior to the application date; or

52 B. Is a teacher with 5 or more years of experience teaching
54 ~~within the 7 years prior to application in the State~~ under a
56 valid certificate in another state within the 7 years prior
58 to application in this State and who has graduated from a
60 state-approved preparation program that utilizes the
62 standards of a national association of state directors of
64 teacher education and certification or a national council
66 for accreditation of teacher education or, with the
68 exception of the national teachers exam, meets entry-level
70 standards for the endorsement.

72 **3. Endorsements.** The professional teacher certificate shall
74 must be issued with an endorsement ~~which~~ that specifies the
76 grades and subject area ~~which~~ the teacher is deemed determined
78 qualified to teach. A holder of a professional teacher
80 certificate may not teach outside his--or--her that area of
82 endorsement unless he-or-she the teacher has received a waiver or
84 transitional endorsement from the commissioner in accordance with
86 state board rules.

2 **4. Five-year certificate.** A professional teacher
certificate shall-be is issued for a 5-year period and may be
4 renewed in accordance with section 13016.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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10 This bill allows a teacher to have reinstated either a
professional certificate that has lapsed more than 5 years or a
12 provisional certificate issued prior to July 1, 1988, which has
lapsed more than 5 years if, prior to the application, 12 credit
14 hours of approved study have recently been completed and the
current entry level standards have been met.

16 If these conditions are satisfied, an individual may obtain
a professional certificate without teaching under a conditional
18 certificate or reentry certificate. The requirement of 12 credit
hours of recently completed approved study for an individual
20 whose certificate has lapsed for more than 5 years, rather than 6
credit hours of approved study, which is the minimum requirement
22 for an individual renewing a 5-year certificate, is based on the
belief that an individual should be familiar with current
24 teaching practices in the education field.

26 The ability to acquire a professional certificate will
enhance an individual's employment prospects as well as save
28 local school districts money since the professional certificate
holder, unlike the conditional certificate holder, does not need
30 to work with a support system.