

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 21

H.P. 21

House of Representatives, January 4, 2001

An Act to Allow Local Boards of Education the Option to Grant a High School Diploma to Former Students Who Are Honorably Discharged World War II Veterans.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative RICHARD of Madison.
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and
Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, DESMOND of Mapleton, ESTES of Kittery,
PINEAU of Jay, SCHNEIDER of Durham, SKOGLUND of St. George, TOBIN of Dexter.

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4

6 **Whereas,** graduation will have passed by the time the
Legislature adjourns; and

8 **Whereas,** this legislation needs to be an emergency in order
to allow diplomas to be awarded before the end of the current
10 school year; and

12 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
14 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
16 safety; now, therefore,

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

20 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4722, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1983, c.
859, Pt. C, §§5 and 7, is amended to read:

22

24 **4. Exception.** A secondary school student who has
satisfactorily completed the freshman year in an accredited
degree-granting institution of higher education may be eligible
26 to receive a high school diploma from the school the student last
attended, although the student may not meet the graduation
28 requirements of this Title. A veteran of World War II who was
honorably discharged may be eligible to receive a high school
30 diploma from the school the veteran attended, although the
veteran may not have met the graduation requirements of this
32 Title.

34 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.
36

38 **SUMMARY**

40 This bill allows a local school board the option of granting
a diploma to a veteran of World War II who was honorably
42 discharged even though the veteran does not meet the graduation
requirements of this Title.
44