

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1030

H.P. 715

House of Representatives, March 1, 2005

An Act To Strengthen Certain Student Support Services within the Maine Community College System

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative NORTON of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CAIN of Orono, GOLDMAN of Cape Elizabeth.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-G, sub-§26-A**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
392, §1, is repealed.

6 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §12731**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt.
OO, §2 and affected by §4, is further amended to read:

8 **§12731. Administration and purpose**

10 The Maine Community College System in cooperation with the
12 Department of Education ~~and the Department of Labor~~ is authorized
14 to provide comprehensive administrative and financial services to
the Maine Career Advantage program, ~~a nonprofit corporation~~
16 ~~organized under the laws of the State of Maine to provide an~~
~~additional education option, through a partnership between~~
18 ~~business and education, for high school students and young adults~~
~~to obtain classroom instruction and on-the-job training that~~
20 ~~prepares them directly for career-related employment or continued~~
education to assist high school students in making a successful
22 transition from secondary school to college and careers through a
combination of scholarships, college transition assistance,
24 career exploration and planning services and internships. The
sole purpose of the Maine Career Advantage program, referred to
26 in this chapter as "the program," is to assist the Maine
Community College System, public secondary schools and other
publicly supported educational institutions in the State in by
28 providing ~~a combination of academic learning and structured~~
~~work-based learning at businesses in the State to students~~
30 ~~enrolled at Maine Community College System facilities, public~~
~~secondary schools or other publicly supported educational~~
32 institutions additional resources and support for students who
have not traditionally gone on to higher education and who may
34 need assistance in developing educational and career goals and in
pursuing those goals.

36 The Maine Community College System is authorized to receive
38 and administer on behalf of the program any grants, fees,
charges, appropriations and other funds from whatever source.
40 The program shall retain its name unless and until the Board of
Trustees of the Maine Community College System authorizes a
42 change in the program name.

44 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §12732, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1993, c.
392, §2, is amended to read:

46 **1. Education and training.** To provide a sequential higher
48 education and training program that enhances opportunities for
youth in this State to become highly skilled and productive
50 members of the work force;

2 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §12733**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt.
OO, §2 and affected by §4, is repealed and the following enacted
in its place:

4 **§12733. Activities**

6 To assist the State in increasing higher education
8 attainment and developing a skilled workforce, the program shall
10 provide career and college transition services to young adults
12 who are not currently enrolling in higher education and who could
14 benefit from enrolling in a community college. These services
16 may include scholarships, internships and other work-based
18 learning experiences; career exploration and planning; assistance
20 in completing the community college application and financial aid
22 processes; academic planning; and information related to
24 continuing higher education beyond the certificate, diploma and
26 associate degree levels, consistent with the student's
28 educational and career objectives. These services must be
30 provided either directly by the program or through referrals to
32 other programs and services available within the Maine Community
34 College System or by other education and service providers. To
36 participate in any of these services, young adults must be
38 enrolled in a public secondary school or a state community
40 college or have recently completed a public secondary education
 program. The program shall provide those activities and services
 that best serve the goals of the program as defined in this
 chapter and the needs of students and the State and that are
 consistent with the Maine Community College System's goals and
 resources.

Sec. 5. 20-A MRSA §12734, as amended by PL 1995, c. 515, §3,
is repealed.

SUMMARY

 This bill eliminates the Skill Standards Board. This bill
also amends the Maine Career Advantage Program by enhancing its
services to better meet the needs of the students the program was
intended to reach, those students that are not traditionally
considered college bound.