MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1187

H.P. 816

House of Representatives, March 8, 2005

An Act To Create a Senior Life Educator Certificate Program

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

Millient M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor. Cosponsored by Representative: LANSLEY of Sabattus.

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13014-A is enacted to read:
§13014-A. Senior life educator certificate
1. Definition. "Senior life educator certificate" means a certificate issued to an individual who has achieved professional standards in accordance with this section.
2. Qualifications. The state board shall adopt rules governing the qualifications for a senior life educator certificate that require that an applicant at a minimum:
A. Hold a master's degree or above from an accredited, degree-granting postsecondary education institution in a field specifically relevant to the subject being taught in the classroom and have maintained a minimum grade point average of at least 3.0 on a scale of 4.0, or the equivalent of a "B" average, during the postbaccalaureate program; and
B. Have work experience in a field specifically relevant to the subject being taught in the classroom as follows:
(1) Have 2 years or more of college teaching experience at an accredited, degree-granting
<pre>postsecondary education institution and 5 years or more of work experience in a field specifically relevant to the subject being taught in the classroom; or</pre>
(2) Have 10 years or more of work experience in a field specifically relevant to the subject being taught in the classroom.
3. Endorsements. A senior life educator certificate must
be issued with an endorsement that specifies the grades and subject area the teacher is qualified to teach as determined by
rules adopted by the state board. A holder of a senior life educator certificate may not teach outside the area of
endorsement.
4. Two-year limit. A senior life educator certificate may
be issued for a 2-year period and may be renewed only in accordance with section 13016.
The state board shall adopt rules to implement this section and section 13016, subsection 5. Rules adopted pursuant to this
section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

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

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- Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13015, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1983, c.
 845, §4, is amended to read:
- 1. Employment. No A public school or private school approved for tuition purposes under section 2901, subsection 2, paragraph B may not employ a provisional teacher or the holder of a senior life educator certificate unless it has an approved, locally designed, support system or has received specific authorization from the commissioner in accordance with state board rules.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §13016, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Senior life educator certificate. A senior life educator certificate may be renewed for 2-year periods in accordance with state board rules, which must require at a minimum that the senior life educator complete at least 6 hours of in-service training designed to improve the performance of the educator in the area of endorsement under section 13014-A, subsection 3 and that the senior life educator have an approved, locally designed support system in accordance with section 13015.

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SUMMARY

This bill allows an individual who does not have a teaching certificate but has life experience and a master's degree or above to be issued a senior life educator certificate.