



## **123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

**Legislative Document** 

No. 462

H.P. 361

House of Representatives, January 30, 2007

An Act Authorizing the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts To Confer the Degree of Doctor of Visual Arts

(EMERGENCY)

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

Millicent M. Mag Jarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland. Cosponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland and Representative: NORTON of Bangor, Senator: TURNER of Cumberland. 1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 Whereas, authorization by the Legislature is required for any institution of higher 4 education to confer academic, educational, literary or professional degrees, upon the 5 recommendation of the State Board of Education; and

6 Whereas, the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts has successfully 7 applied to the State Board of Education for a recommendation of degree-granting 8 authority; and

9 Whereas, it is necessary to grant this authority in order that the Institute for 10 Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts may begin offering degree programs for students 11 beginning in the fall of 2007; and

12 Whereas, the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts must initiate 13 immediately a federally required waiting period before the institute may apply for federal 14 loans for students; and

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

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

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20 Sec. 1. Degree. Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts, of Portland, is 21 authorized to confer upon all who successfully complete its prescribed course of study the 22 degree of Doctor of Visual Arts as is usually conferred by like institutions of higher 23 learning.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
 legislation takes effect when approved.

## SUMMARY

27 This bill authorizes the Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts to confer the 28 degree of Doctor of Visual Arts upon students in accordance with the Maine Revised 29 Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10704. On December 13, 2006 the State Board of Education 30 voted unanimously to approve the institute's application to confer the degree and 31 transmitted its recommendation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs in accordance with the Department of Education's rules, Chapter 149. 32 33 The bill is an emergency because the institute needs the authorization to initiate a federal 34 waiting period prior to applying for federal loans for students.