

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 264

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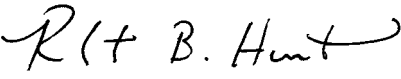
H.P. 169

House of Representatives, January 26, 2023

### **An Act to Clarify the Process for Admission to the Bar on Motion**

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Submitted by the Judicial Department pursuant to Joint Rule 204.  
Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MORIARTY of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §805-A, sub-§3**, as corrected by RR 2021, c. 1, Pt. B, §23, is  
3 amended to read:

4 **3. Admission within one year of passing bar examination.** ~~The~~ An applicant for  
5 admission by examination must be admitted to practice within one year from the ~~time~~ date  
6 that the applicant has been notified of that applicant's passing of the bar examination. This  
7 one-year period may be ~~enlarged~~ extended by successive one-year periods by a Justice of  
8 the Supreme Judicial Court on motion for good cause shown during the period.

9 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §805-A, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

10 **4. Admission within one year of applying for admission on motion.** An applicant  
11 for admission on motion must be admitted to practice within one year from the date that  
12 the board of bar examiners receives the applicant's application. This period may be  
13 extended by a 6-month period by the board of bar examiners pursuant to the regulations of  
14 the board of bar examiners and then by successive one-year periods by a Justice of the  
15 Supreme Judicial Court on motion for good cause shown during the 6-month period or any  
16 succeeding one-year period.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill clarifies that an applicant for the bar by admission on motion must be admitted  
19 to practice within one year of the date the board of bar examiners receives the application  
20 for admission on motion.