

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY - SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 811

H. P. 1776

House of Representatives, March 21, 1935.

Reported by Mr. Philbrick from Committee on Judiciary and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

NEW DRAFT OF H. P. 441—L. D. 119

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relative to Qualifications of Applicants for Admission to the Bar.

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

R. S., c. 93, § 28, amended. Section 28 of chapter 93 of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter 176 of the public laws of 1931, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 28. Qualification of applicants; mode of examination; grade of standing. Each applicant before taking examination for admission to the bar of this state, shall produce to said board of examiners satisfactory evidence of good moral character and of having received a preliminary education ~~equivalent to that required for graduation from the class A secondary schools of this state as recognized by the state commissioner of education.~~ sufficient to entitle him to admission as a member in good standing of the third year class of Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College or the University of Maine or any other college or university approved by said board of examiners, as a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, Science, Education or Business Administration. Such preliminary education ~~may shall be proved by the production of a diploma from the secondary school attended (and, if said school is located without the state, evidence that its standards are equal to those of said class A~~

secondary schools in this state), or from a school or college of educational standing higher than that of the said class A secondary schools, or from a law school approved by said board of examiners. In lieu of such diploma, such applicant may furnish a certificate that he has passed the examinations of the college entrance examination board with a sufficient rank to admit to Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College, or the University of Maine, or the entrance examinations of one of said institutions required of candidates for the degrees of A. B. or B. S. a certificate of the satisfactory completion of 2 years' work as a candidate for such degree at one or more of such colleges or universities or by a certificate of admission as a candidate for such degree to the third year class of any such college or university. Any applicant may register with said board of examiners at any time by filing with said board a certificate stating his name, address, age, and the date on which the study of law is commenced and at the same time may submit to the board the proof of preliminary education, which proof shall be at once acted upon by the board and the result of such action communicated to the applicant.

In addition to the foregoing requirements, each applicant shall produce to the said board satisfactory evidence of having pursued the study of law in the office of some attorney or in some law school approved by said board for at least 3 years prior to examination and that he has been a bona fide resident of the state for the 6 months last passed. When an applicant shall have satisfied said board that all the foregoing requirements have been fulfilled, said applicant shall pay a fee to be fixed by said board of not more than \$20 and shall then be required to submit to a written examination which shall be prepared by said board, also an oral examination by said board, if deemed necessary, and shall be required to answer correctly a minimum of 70% of the questions asked to entitle said applicant to the certificate of qualification mentioned in section 27. The board shall, however, have power to establish such higher grades of standing as to them may seem proper.

Provided however that any applicant who, prior to the date of approval of this act has complied with all of the requirements of law as to preliminary education then in force, and who is otherwise qualified under the terms hereof, shall be eligible for examination as herein provided, provided such applicant shall register with said board by filing the certificate and proof of preliminary education hereinbefore described prior to July 1, 1936.'