

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1108**

H. P. 1766

House of Representatives, March 1, 1949.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Grant of South Portland.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-NINE

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**RESOLVE in Favor of Portland Junior College.**

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**Portland Junior College; appropriation for. Resolved:** That the sum of \$50,000 be, and hereby is, appropriated from the general fund to be expended by the trustees of Portland Junior College for the purpose of completion and equipment of its school buildings and for furnishing facilities for veterans of World War II attending said Portland Junior College under the G. I. bill of rights, so called.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

Portland Junior College has met an important need in the state of Maine providing 2 years academic or 2 years business administration training for transfer to other colleges and 2 years terminal courses for students not continuing further, many of which students, without this opportunity, would have been unable to have carried on college education. Transferees of Portland Junior College have been successful in all Maine colleges and in many other standard colleges throughout the country. At one time over 350 former students of Portland Junior College were known to be in the service in World War II. At the beginning of the war the college set up an accelerated pilot training program and completed the training in May 1943 of 150 men. It was recognized as one of the highest rating navy units in the New England area, was taken over by the military forces, and in all 600 men received help in becoming fliers as the result of the pilot training program initiated by Portland Junior College.

Since the war it has been providing collegiate and refresher courses for 350 students of whom a large percentage are veterans. Its previous facilities have been inadequate and its work has been done on a makeshift arrangement. It has been recognized by the United States department of education for "justification of need." It has purchased land and buildings in the heart of the city of Portland to provide adequate facilities. It has raised and is raising funds to complete the interior renovation of its buildings that it may coordinate its construction for immediate use and carry on its veteran program in an orderly manner. A first and final request according to budget was made of the 93rd legislature which, however, was cut in half. This resolve is for the remainder of the amount originally required and requested.