

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 960

S. P. 354

In Senate, February 26, 1957.

Referred to Committee on Education. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Dow of Lincoln.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Approval of Institutions Granting Associate Degrees.

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

R. S., c. 41, § 142, amended. Section 142 of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 142. Approval of degree-granting institutions. Any educational institution seeking authority to grant any educational, literary or academic degree, or any junior college or similar post-secondary educational institution seeking authority to grant an associate degree, shall make application to the Secretary of State, in a manner prescribed by him, not later than ~~the~~ May 1st immediately preceding the legislative session.

Upon notification from the Secretary of State, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner to obtain full information regarding the merit of the institution to confer the degree or grant the associate degree. He shall use those standards which are commonly accepted in the accreditation of American educational institutions, and shall prepare for the use of the Legislature a report regarding the adequacy of the institution's buildings, instructional facilities and provisions for the safety and well-being of students; the qualifications of the faculty; the character of the program of studies and of the requirements for award of ~~diplomas~~ degrees; practices in the admission of students; the adequacy of financial resources; and the governing policies of the institution. The report, with recommendations of the State Board of Education, shall be delivered to the Secretary of State at least 10 days before the opening of the regular legislative session.

No person, school, board, association or corporation shall use in any way the term "junior college" or "college" or "university" in connection with an institution, or use any other name, title or descriptive matter tending to designate that it is an institution of higher learning with the power to grant educational, literary or academic degrees unless the institution has been given the right to grant degrees in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Any institution not previously authorized to confer a degree or an associate degree must have been in regular operation at least 2 years before the Legislature grants authority to confer a degree or associate degree.

An institution authorized to confer a degree or associate degree shall inform the Commissioner of any substantial reduction in its educational program or resources available to students. If, in the judgment of the State Board of Education, these changes are sufficient to warrant review of the institution's authority to confer degrees or associate degrees, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner to report these changes to the current membership of the legislative committee which originally considered the measure.