

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

MAY 1992

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1992

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of enacted Resolve
CON RES XXX	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
CARRIED OVER	Bill carried over to Special Session
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass report accepted
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw report accepted
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House and Senate disagree; bill died
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature filed to override Governor's Veto
UNSIGNED	Not signed by Governor within 10 days
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

approved for tuition purposes. It grants authority for governing the school to a 5-member board of trustees and creates a policy review council to recommend and review education policy at the school. The bill also requires that sending school administrative units provide tuition payments for students committed to the youth center who attend the school.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1067) deletes the provisions that establish a board of trustees and that require sending schools to contribute tuition payments to the Arthur R. Gould School. The amendment also adds a fiscal note.

LD 2408

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Medical Education

PUBLIC 832

SPONSOR(S)

CROWLEY
ESTES

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1167

SUMMARY

This bill is the result of the report of the Advisory Committee on Medical Education, dated January 15, 1992. The bill:

1. Sets a date after which there will no longer be participants in the existing postgraduate medical education program.
2. Clarifies that changes made by the First Regular Session of the 115th Legislature to the forgiveness provisions of the state contract program apply to all participants enrolled in that program.
3. Repeals the existing directive for purchasing positions for Maine students at institutions of medical education effective December 31, 1992. Contracts existing on that date remain in effect.
4. Repeals the requirement of an annual recruitment plan after the effective date of the new programs.
5. Repeals the existing Advisory Committee on Medical Education and reenacts a new committee under the new program.
6. Terminates the use of the existing Osteopathic Loan Program for new students effective for academic years beginning in 1993-94.
7. Establishes 2 new programs administered by the Finance Authority of Maine with 2 main goals: ensuring access to medical education for qualified Maine residents and ensuring sufficient primary health care practitioners in the State.

Under the Access to Medical Education Program, the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine shall purchase up to 20 positions annually at schools of allopathic and osteopathic medicine to an aggregate of 80 positions to provide access to medical education for qualified Maine students. Positions for veterinary, optometry and dentistry students, provided in the prior program, are eliminated. Contract students in the program must agree to take training designed to encourage their practice of medicine in rural areas of the State and in areas experiencing a shortage in health care professionals.

The Loans for Medical Education Program in this bill establishes a need-based loan program designed to encourage Maine students to commence primary health care practices in the State on completion of their medical education.

At least 90% of the loan fund is available for loans to students of allopathic and osteopathic medicine. Up to 10% of the loan fund is available to students of optometry, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

The bill includes forgiveness provisions for any primary health care physician or dentist practicing in an area determined by the Department of Human Services to require additional medical professionals; any veterinarian who practices in an area determined by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to require additional practitioners of veterinary medicine; and any doctor who completes a family practice residency in the State.

A nonlapsing revolving fund is established. A portion of annual loan repayments may be used to recruit primary health care physicians to areas of the State lacking sufficient numbers of primary health care physicians.

The bill requires the authority to prepare and circulate a request for proposals for institutions of medical education to participate in the Access to Medical Education Program to encourage program participants to establish primary health care practices in the State.

The bill repeals the provision in the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program giving priority to full-time students. This clarifies a discrepancy with legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 115th Legislature that allows an allocation of the fund for awards to part-time students.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1167) replaces the definition of "Maine resident," adds a definition of "underserved specialty" and makes several modifications to the loan agreement provisions of the Health Professions Loan Program established in the bill and includes a requirement that loan recipients establish proof of reasonable service to Medicaid patients, Medicare patients and public health clinics as a condition of loan forgiveness or interest rate reduction. The amendment adds a representative of a major teaching hospital in the State to the Advisory Committee on Medical Education. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 2409 An Act to Improve Educational Public Broadcasting Statewide

**PUBLIC 848
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

BRANNIGAN
FOSTER
CROWLEY
NORTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1200 CROWLEY
H-1290 HANDY
S-666

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes the University of Maine System to transfer the assets of the Maine Public Broadcasting Network to a nonprofit, nonstock private corporation to unify its operations' with those of the Colby-Bates-Bowdoin Educational Telecasting Corporation into a statewide noncommercial public broadcasting network. A reversionary interest is retained by the University of Maine System. The bill further provides that it is the intent of the State to fund the delivery of public broadcast services statewide.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-666) clarifies that the University of Maine System may transfer the assets of the Maine Public Broadcasting Network, or MPBN, to the transferee corporation only if the corporation has a board of trustees that includes between 8 and 12 public trustees elected by the board in the manner prescribed in the corporation's bylaws.

The amendment requires the transferee corporation to offer one-year individual employment contracts at fiscal year 1991-92 salary levels to MPBN employees who were employed on March 1, 1992 and who are employed on June 30, 1992. It guarantees that, unless employees in that group voluntarily leave their