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An Act To Increase the Number of Recipients under the Tuition Waiver Program for Participants in Foster Care

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §12573, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2003, c. 187, §1, is further amended to read:

3. Limitation. Tuition waivers to eligible persons are limited to 3060 new students per year in each year at state postsecondary educational institutions as follows:

A. ~~The first 25 tuition waivers must be available to eligible persons at the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Community College System; and~~

B. ~~Of the 5 remaining tuition waivers, 3 must be available to eligible persons at the University of Maine System and 2 must be available to eligible persons at the Maine Community College System.~~

SUMMARY

This bill increases from 30 to 60 the number of tuition waivers for postsecondary education allowed to be granted each academic year to persons who, at the time of their graduation from high school or their successful completion of a general educational development examination, were in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services and resided in foster care or subsidized adoptive care or were minor wards of a subsidized permanency guardian. This bill also removes the requirements that the tuition waivers be apportioned to postsecondary institutions based upon the order in which the waivers are made available.