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Date: (Filing No. S- )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
128TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 482, L.D. 1404, Bill, “An Act To Ensure the Integrity of For-profit Colleges”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Ensure Integrity of For-profit Colleges and Universities'**

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in the first line (page 1, line 3 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or university'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 1 in paragraph C in subparagraph (4) in the first line (page 1, line 14 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or university'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 1 in paragraph D in subparagraph (1) in the 2nd line (page 1, line 18 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or university'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 1 in paragraph E in the first line (page 1, line 29 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or university'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 1 by inserting after paragraph F the following:

'G. "Regional accreditation" means a formal status granted by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Secretary of Education to an institution meeting or exceeding the educational quality criteria as stated in the regional accrediting agency's publication in order to assess and enhance the educational quality of an institution, ensure consistency in institutional operations, promote institutional improvement and provide for public accountability.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 2 in the first line (page 1, line 36 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or university'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 2 in paragraph A in the 2nd  
2 line (page 2, line 4 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or  
3 university'

4 Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 2 in paragraph C in the 2nd  
5 line (page 2, line 11 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "employed; and" and inserting  
6 the following: 'employed.'

7 Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 2 in paragraph D in  
8 subparagraph (2) in the last line (page 2, line 18 in L.D.) by striking out the following:  
9 "service." and inserting the following: 'service; and'

10 Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 2 by inserting after paragraph  
11 D the following:

12 'E. The design and implementation of student support services, including the process  
13 by which student complaints are handled in a timely and effective manner and  
14 information on the number and nature of complaints received and the responses to  
15 those complaints.'

16 Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A by striking out all of subsection 3 (page 2,  
17 lines 19 to 32 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

18 **3. Evaluation.** The state board shall by rule establish metrics to determine adequate  
19 educational standards that must be met by for-profit colleges and universities. The  
20 metrics must include at least the following evaluation criteria.

21 A. The state board shall evaluate spending priorities by using information supplied  
22 pursuant to subsection 2, paragraph A. If the state board finds a for-profit college or  
23 university spends less than 50% of its total spending on instruction or more than 15%  
24 of its total spending on advertising, the state board must find that the for-profit  
25 college or university fails to meet adequate educational standards.

26 B. The state board shall determine whether a for-profit college or university has  
27 received necessary regional accreditations to allow graduates to meet professional  
28 licensing or other career standards related to the educational programs for which  
29 degrees or certificates are granted by the for-profit college or university. If the state  
30 board finds a for-profit college or university has not received the necessary regional  
31 accreditations, the state board must find that the for-profit college or university fails  
32 to meet adequate educational standards.

33 C. The state board shall evaluate the design and implementation of student support  
34 services, including whether the complaint process by which student complaints are  
35 handled is transparent, includes an appropriate official to receive complaints and  
36 provides appropriate and timely responses to complaints. If the state board finds that  
37 a for-profit college or university does not have adequate or appropriate student  
38 support services, the board may find that the for-profit college or university fails to  
39 meet adequate educational standards.'

40 Amend the bill in section 1 in §10706-A in subsection 5 in the 3rd line (page 2, line  
41 38 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "college" the following: 'or university'

1 Amend the bill in section 2 in §10712 by striking out all of subsection 5 (page 3, lines  
2 19 to 21 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

3 **'5. Failure of certain institutions to meet adequate educational standards. The**  
4 **educational institution has failed to meet adequate educational standards under section**  
5 **10706-A.'**

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment makes the following clarifications and changes to the bill.

8 1. It clarifies that the bill applies to for-profit colleges and universities.

9 2. It clarifies that the required accreditation requirements for-profit colleges and  
10 universities must satisfy are regional accreditations.

11 3. It adds a requirement that student support services, including the process by which  
12 student complaints are handled, be reviewed as part of the evaluation by the State Board  
13 of Education to determine whether adequate educational standards are being met by a for-  
14 profit college or university.

15 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

16 **(See attached)**