



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 1533

H.P. 1137

House of Representatives, April 19, 2021

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**An Act To Amend the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition  
Revolving Loan Program**

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Received by the Clerk of the House on April 15, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston.  
Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: BAILEY of Gorham, BRENNAN of Portland, HARNETT of Gardiner,  
RIELLY of Westbrook, ROBERTS of South Berwick, SYLVESTER of Portland, TEPLER of  
Topsham, Senator: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1100-AA, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 447, §1, is  
3 amended by amending subparagraph (7) to read:

4 (7) Fees related to obtaining a Maine driver's license, including but not limited to  
5 driver's education course fees, learner's permit application fees and driver's license  
6 fees; ~~and~~

7 **Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §1100-AA, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 447, §1, is  
8 amended by amending subparagraph (8) to read:

9 (8) Costs to travel to the nearest location of any exam or test needed to establish  
10 the applicant's skills or credentials or English language proficiency if there is no  
11 location within 60 miles of the Maine town in which the immigrant resides; and

12 **Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §1100-AA, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 447, §1, is  
13 amended by enacting a new subparagraph (9) to read:

14 (9) Costs of a filing fee required by the United States Department of Homeland  
15 Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, or any successor  
16 federal agency, to apply for the immigrant's initial work permit.

17 **Sec. 4. 10 MRSA §1100-AA, sub-§1, ¶C-1** is enacted to read:

18 C-1. "Initial work permit" means the first work permit that the immigrant is authorized  
19 to apply for under 8 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 274a.12(c) (2019).

20 **Sec. 5. 10 MRSA §1100-AA, sub-§1, ¶E**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 447, §1, is  
21 amended to read:

22 E. "Work permit" means a document provided by the United States Department of  
23 Homeland Security or any other federal immigration authority confirming a federal  
24 authorization of a person who is not a United States citizen to work in the United States.

25 **Sec. 6. 10 MRSA §1100-AA, sub-§4, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 447, §1, is  
26 amended to read:

27 B. Must have filed an application or petition with federal immigration authorities that  
28 entitles the immigrant to request a work permit in any of the categories set forth in 8  
29 Code of Federal Regulations, Section ~~274a.12(e)(2019)~~ 274a.12(c) (2019). The  
30 immigrant shall provide electronic or paper evidence establishing that the application  
31 or petition was filed with federal immigration authorities and shall state which section  
32 of 8 Code of Federal Regulations, Section ~~274a.12(e)(2019)~~ 274a.12(c) (2019) allows  
33 the immigrant to request a work permit. An immigrant is not eligible if the immigrant  
34 has been denied a work permit at the time of making the application. In the case of  
35 ~~asylum seekers~~, an immigrant who, pursuant to 8 Code of Federal Regulations, Section  
36 274a.12(c)(8) (2019) or other federal statute or regulation, is required to wait a period  
37 of time after filing an application for asylum or another immigration benefit or relief  
38 before becoming authorized to receive an initial work permit, the immigrant is eligible  
39 if the immigrant's request for asylum has been pending for fewer than 150 days since  
40 the date of its filing and the immigrant has not yet been able to apply for a work permit  
41 pursuant to 8 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 274a.12(c)(8)(2019) or, if more  
42 than 150 days have elapsed since the asylum application was filed, the immigrant has

