MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 2	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3 4	ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
5 6	Legislative Document No. 13
7	H.P. 17 House of Representatives, January 5, 1983
8	Reference to the Committee on Local and County Government suggested
9	and ordered printed.
10	EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
10	Presented by Representative Richard of Madison. Cosponsors: Representative Perry of Mexico and Senator Redmond of Somerset.
11	
12 13	STATE OF MAINE
13	
14	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 16	NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
17	AN ACT to Equitably Share the Cost of
18	Police Training Among Municipalities.
19	
20	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
21	follows:
22	30 MRSA §2361, sub-§3 is enacted to read:
23	3. Municipal reimbursement. Whenever a police
24	officer, trained at the Maine Criminal Justice Acade-
25	my while on the payroll of a particular municipality,
26	is subsequently hired by another municipality within
27	3 years of his graduation from the academy, that
28	municipality shall reimburse the first municipality
29	according to the following formula:

- A. If the officer graduated less than one year before subsequently being hired by the other municipality, that municipality shall reimburse the first municipality the full cost of the salary it paid the officer while in attendance at the academy, plus the cost of any overtime it paid to others to provide police protection during the officer's absence.
- 9 B. If the officer graduated less than 2 years 10 before subsequently being hired by the other 11 municipality, that municipality shall reimburse 12 the first municipality 2/3 of the costs described 13 in paragraph A.
- 14 C. If the officer graduated less than 3 years
 15 before subsequently being hired by the other
 16 municipality, that municipality shall reimburse
 17 the first municipality 1/3 of the costs described
 18 in paragraph A.
- D. If the officer graduated more than 3 years before subsequently being hired by the other municipality, that municipality is under no obligation to reimburse the first municipality.
- If the officer is subsequently hired by additional 23 24 municipalities within 3 years of his graduation from the academy, each of those municipalities is liable 25 26 to the municipal employer immediately preceding it for the costs paid by that municipality, either 27 directly or through the reimbursement formula described in this subsection, for the costs described 28 29 30 in paragraph A. The extent of financial liability 31 shall be determined according to the formula estab-32 lished by this subsection.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to establish a formula whereby towns that bear the expense of a police officer's basic training will be reimbursed to some extent by any town that hires that officer within 3 years of his graduation from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

State law currently requires all towns to have all full-time officers of their respective police forces trained at the police academy within one year of being hired. Routinely, towns pay the officers their regular salary while they attend the 12-week course. Frequently, towns also bear additional costs while the officer is at the academy due to the need to hire replacement staff. Many times, after an officer has been trained, he will be lured to another municipal police force by higher wages. The municipality hiring the officer obtains a trained officer at no expense, while the municipality that "lost" him must go through the expense and inconvenience of hiring and training another officer.

This bill establishes an equitable formula whereby the town that loses the officer will be reimbursed a portion, and perhaps all, of the costs it experienced in training that officer, if the officer leaves for a job with another town within 3 years of graduating from the police academy.

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