

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

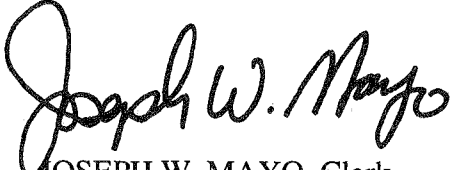
No. 781

H.P. 590

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

An Act to Provide Legislators with the Same Health Benefits as State Employees.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative HATCH of Skowhegan.
Cosponsored by Senator CATHCART of Penobscot and
Representatives: SAMSON of Jay, SAXL of Bangor.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §803, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

6 5. Group life insurance. For each member eligible for
8 group life insurance in accordance with Title 5, chapter 425,
10 subchapter VI, the State shall pay the costs for basic coverage.
12 Additional coverage may be purchased in accordance with Title 5,
14 chapter 425.

16 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 368,
18 Pt. G, §2, is further amended to read:

20 **7. Payment by State.** Except as otherwise provided in this
22 subsection, the State, through the commission, shall pay 100% of
24 only the employee's share of this health plan, except for
26 Legislators, for whom the State shall pay 50% 60% of the health
28 plan premium for dependent coverage. For any person appointed to
30 a position after November 1, 1981, who is employed less than full
32 time, the State shall pay a share of the employee's share reduced
34 pro rata to reflect the reduced number of work hours.

36 For persons who were first employed before July 1, 1991, the
38 State shall pay 100% of only the retiree's share of the premiums
40 for this health plan for persons who were previously eligible for
42 this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who
44 have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1,
46 paragraph G.

48 For persons who were first employed by the State after July 1,
50 1991, the State shall pay a pro rata share portion of only the
52 retiree's share of the premiums, as described in this section,
54 for this health plan for persons who were previously eligible for
56 this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who
58 have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1,
60 paragraph G based on the total number of years of participation
62 in the group health plan prior to retirement as follows:

Years of Participation	State Portion
10 or more years	100% group health plan premium
9 but less than 10 years	90% group health plan premium
8 but less than 9 years	80% group health plan premium
7 but less than 8 years	70% group health plan premium
6 but less than 7 years	60% group health plan premium

2 5 but less than 6 years 50% group health plan
premium
4 Less than 5 years No contribution

6 **Sec. 3. Effective date.** This Act takes effect December 2, 1998.

8 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill would provide Legislators with the same percentage
12 of dependent coverage as other state employees. The bill also
14 requires the retirement system to pay the costs of basic life
insurance, as is the current policy for other state employees.
The change will become effective December 2, 1998, for the 119th
Legislature.