

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 822

S.P. 253

In Senate, February 6, 1997

**An Act to Grant Visually Impaired Operators of Government Vending
Facilities Access to State Health Insurance at Their Own Expense.**

Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

2
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§1, ¶F-3,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.
410, Pt. L, §10, is amended to read:

6 F-3. Any employee of the Maine State Retirement System; and

8 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§1, ¶G,** as amended by PL 1993, c.
10 410, Pt. L, §11, is further amended to read:

12 G. Subject to subsection 1-A, employees in any of the
14 categories denominated in paragraphs A to F-1 and paragraph
F-3 who:

16 (1) On April 26, 1968, have retired and who were
covered under group health plans that by virtue of
18 Public Law 1967, chapter 543 were terminated;

20 (2) After April 26, 1968, retire and who on the date
of their retirement are currently enrolled in this
22 group health plan as employees;

24 (3) After December 2, 1986, and after reaching normal
retirement age, cease to be members of the Legislature
and are recipients of retirement allowances from the
26 Maine State Retirement System based upon creditable
service as teachers, as defined by section 17001,
28 subsection 42. This paragraph also applies to former
members who were members on December 2, 1986; or

30 (4) After December 2, 1986, and not yet normal
32 retirement age, cease to be members of the Legislature
and are recipients of retirement allowances from the
34 Maine State Retirement System based upon creditable
service as teachers, as defined by section 17001,
36 subsection 42. This paragraph also applies to former
members who were members on December 2, 1986; and

38 **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§1, ¶H** is enacted to read:

40 H. A blind person operating a vending facility under the
42 direction of the Department of Education, Division for the
44 Blind and Visually Impaired.

46 **Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7,** as amended by PL 1995, c. 368,
Pt. G, §2, is further amended to read:

48 **7. Payment by State.** Except as otherwise provided in this
subsection, the State, through the commission, shall pay 100% of
50 only the employee's share of this health plan, except for
Legislators, for whom the State shall pay 50% of the health plan
52 premium for dependent coverage. For any person appointed to a

2 position after November 1, 1981, who is employed less than full
3 time, the State shall pay a share of the employee's share reduced
4 pro rata to reflect the reduced number of work hours. The State
5 may not pay any portion of the health plan premium for a blind
6 person eligible for the group health plan under subsection 1,
7 paragraph H.

8 For persons who were first employed before July 1, 1991, the
9 State shall pay 100% of only the retiree's share of the premiums
10 for this health plan for persons who were previously eligible for
11 this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who
12 have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1,
13 paragraph G.

14 For persons who were first employed by the State after July 1,
15 1991, the State shall pay a pro rata share portion of only the
16 retiree's share of the premiums, as described in this section,
17 for this health plan for persons who were previously eligible for
18 this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who
19 have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1,
20 paragraph G based on the total number of years of participation
21 in the group health plan prior to retirement as follows:

24 Years of Participation	State Portion
25 10 or more years	100% group health plan
26	premium
27 9 but less than 10 years	90% group health plan
28	premium
29 8 but less than 9 years	80% group health plan
30	premium
31 7 but less than 8 years	70% group health plan
32	premium
33 6 but less than 7 years	60% group health plan
34	premium
35 5 but less than 6 years	50% group health plan
36	premium
37 Less than 5 years	No contribution
38	
39	
40	

42 SUMMARY

43 This bill makes vending facility managers available to
44 purchase health insurance through the state employee health
45 insurance program.
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