

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1402

S.P. 480

In Senate, April 11, 2017

An Act Regarding Payroll Deductions

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §637** is enacted to read:

3 **§637. Public employee payroll deductions for certain insurance, employee benefits**
4 **or contributions to political action committees**

5 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
6 following terms have the following meanings.

7 A. "Political action committee" has the same meaning as in Title 21-A, section 1052,
8 subsection 5.

9 B. "Public employee" means an employee of a public employer.

10 C. "Public employer" means a state, county or municipal government entity that is a
11 public employer as that term is defined in section 962, subsection 7 and section
12 979-A, subsection 5.

13 **2. Employee authorization.** A public employee may authorize in writing a payroll
14 deduction for:

15 A. The cost or partial cost of insurance or an employee benefit offered by the
16 employee's bargaining agent; or

17 B. A contribution to a political action committee.

18 **3. Payroll deduction.** A public employer shall deduct funds from a public
19 employee's pay as authorized by the employee in accordance with subsection 2 and
20 transmit those funds to the recipient specified by the employee.

21 **4. No charge.** A public employer may not charge a fee for a deduction made
22 pursuant to this section.

23 **5. Withdraw authorization.** An employee may withdraw the employee's
24 authorization under subsection 2 by providing 60 days written notice of the withdrawal to
25 the public employer.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill authorizes public employees to authorize payroll deductions for the cost of
28 insurance or an employee benefit offered by the employee's bargaining agent or for a
29 contribution to a political action committee. The bill requires public employers to deduct
30 funds from a public employee's pay as authorized by the employee and transmit those
31 funds to the specified recipient.