

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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8/11/19

L.D. 467

Date: 6/11/19 Majority

(Filing No. H-554)

LABOR AND HOUSING

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 351, L.D. 467, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Eligibility Criteria for Creditable Service in the Armed Forces of the United States under the State Retirement System"

Amend the bill by adding after section 2 the following:

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAINE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Retirement System - Retirement Allowance Fund 0085

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the unfunded actuarial liability created as a result of expanding the periods of conflict for which members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program who served in the armed forces during those conflicts can purchase service credit at a subsidized rate.

GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
All Other	\$5,600,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$5,600,000	\$0

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 467

LR 554(02)

An Act To Amend the Eligibility Criteria for Creditable Service in the Armed Forces of the United States under the State Retirement System

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A(H-550)*
Committee: Labor and Housing
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$5,600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$5,600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Expanding the periods of conflict in which members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Plan who served in the armed forces during those periods of conflicts can purchase service credit at a subsidizable rate will increase the unfunded actuarial liability (UAL) of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MainePERS). Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 18-A, unfunded liabilities may not be created except those that result from experience losses.

Because the number of members who have served in the expanded periods of conflict and how many of those eligible members would choose to purchase the additional service credits are not known, MainePERS could not determine the actual cost of this provision. However, on average MainePERS receives approximately 8 inquiries per year from members in the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Plan who, had this provision been in place, would have been eligible to purchase the service credits at the subsidized rate. The subsidized portion of the total cost for the additional service credits for those members that requested estimates range from \$60,000 to \$80,000 per member. Assuming 8 members per year purchase service credits each year and that the members are within 10 to 15 years of retirement age, the total cost of this provision could range from \$5.6 million to \$8.4 million, which will need to be funded immediately in order to avoid the creation of an unfunded actuarial liability. This bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$5,600,000 to the Retirement Allowance Fund within MainePERS to fund the UAL at the lower estimated cost. However, additional funding may need to be provided immediately if the actual cost of this provision is greater than the funding provided in this bill.