

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1339

H.P. 967

House of Representatives, March 21, 2019

**An Act To Recalculate Retirement Benefits for Certain State
Employees Adversely Affected by Merit Pay Freezes**

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PICKETT of Dixfield.
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and
Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, GATTINE of
Westbrook, JORGENSEN of Portland, KESCHL of Belgrade, MILLETT of Waterford,
WADSWORTH of Hiram.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Recalculation of benefits for certain Maine Public Employees**
3 **Retirement System retirees subject to merit pay freezes; retroactivity.** The
4 changes to the law governing the calculation of retirement benefits for members of the
5 Maine Public Employees Retirement System under Public Law 2015, chapter 267, Part
6 CCCC, section 1 and Public Law 2015, chapter 385, which allowed members who retired
7 on or after June 30, 2015 to pay the necessary member contributions to include in their
8 retirement benefit calculations wages lost due to merit pay freezes and longevity pay
9 freezes, apply retroactively to a member who retired on or after March 1, 2014 and prior
10 to June 30, 2015 back to the date of the member's retirement, except that such lost wages
11 may only include frozen merit pay and not frozen longevity pay.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 The law governing the calculation of retirement benefits for members of the Maine
14 Public Employees Retirement System was amended by Public Law 2015, chapter 267,
15 Part CCCC, section 1 and Public Law 2015, chapter 385 to allow members who retired
16 on or after June 30, 2015 to pay the necessary member contributions to include in their
17 retirement benefit calculations wages lost due to merit pay freezes and longevity pay
18 freezes.

19 This bill authorizes a member of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System
20 who retired on or after March 1, 2014 and prior to June 30, 2015 to include in the
21 member's retirement benefit calculations wages lost due to merit pay freezes, retroactive
22 to the date of the member's retirement. This provision does not include lost wages due to
23 longevity pay freezes.