MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 467

S.P. 205

In Senate, February 11, 2025

An Act to Require the State to Pay Medicare Part B Premiums for Certain Retired State Employees

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 5, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield and

Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, MOORE of Washington, TIPPING of Penobscot,

Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

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

- **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§14,** as enacted by PL 2009, c. 456, §1, is amended to read:
- 14. Employees and retirees eligible for Medicare. Notwithstanding subsection 7, if an active employee eligible for Medicare elects to enroll in Medicare, the State shall pay 100% of the employee's share of the premiums for Medicare Part B until such time as the employee enrolls as an eligible retiree pursuant to this section. Notwithstanding subsection 7, the State shall pay 100% of a retiree's share of the premiums for Medicare Part B for those retirees not eligible for benefits under the Social Security Act as defined in section 19002, subsection 7 whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2026 is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum amount of the retirement benefits that is subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under section 17806 being paid to retired state employees.

14 SUMMARY

This bill provides that the State must pay 100% of certain retired state employees' shares of the premiums for Medicare Part B for retirees not eligible for benefits under the United States Social Security Act whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2026 is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum amount of the retirement benefits that is subject to the cost-of-living adjustment.