

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SAE
ROS

L.D. 579

Date: 6/11/25

(Filing No. S- 344)

MAJORITY

LABOR

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 260, L.D. 579, "An Act to Include Certain Mental Health Workers Under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement"

Amend the bill in section 2 in paragraph Q in the last line (page 1, line 11 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "thereafter;" the following: 'and'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 3 and 4 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§1, ¶R is enacted to read:

R. Persons in the employment of the Department of Health and Human Services on October 1, 2025 or hired thereafter who have the job classification of Mental Health Worker I, Mental Health Worker II, Mental Health Worker III or Mental Health Worker IV.'

Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 2 in the 8th and 9th lines (page 1, lines 34 and 35 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

Amend the bill in section 6 in subparagraph (1) in the last line (page 2, line 13 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "R and S" and inserting the following: 'and R'

Amend the bill in section 7 in paragraph A in the 10th line (page 2, line 25 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

Amend the bill in section 7 in paragraph A in the 20th and 21st lines (page 2, lines 35 and 36 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

Amend the bill in section 7 in paragraph A in the 31st line (page 3, line 1 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in the 9th line (page 3, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in the 19th line (page 3, line 29 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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1 Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in subparagraph (1) in the 10th and 11th
2 lines (page 3, lines 42 and 43 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S"
3 and inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

4 Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in subparagraph (1) in the 19th line (page
5 4, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the
6 following: 'paragraph R'

7 Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in subparagraph (1) in the 29th line (page
8 4, line 16 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the
9 following: 'paragraph R'

10 Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in subparagraph (2) in the 9th and 10th lines
11 (page 4, lines 33 and 34 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and
12 inserting the following: 'paragraph R'

13 Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in subparagraph (2) in the 19th line (page
14 4, line 43 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the
15 following: 'paragraph R'

16 Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph B in subparagraph (2) in the 31st line (page 5,
17 line 9 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the
18 following: 'paragraph R'

19 Amend the bill in section 9 in paragraph G in the first 2 lines (page 5, lines 20 and 21
20 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the following:
21 'paragraph R'

22 Amend the bill in section 9 in paragraph G in the 4th and 5th lines (page 5, lines 23
23 and 24 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the
24 following: 'paragraph R'

25 Amend the bill in section 10 in subsection 5 in the 9th and 10th lines (page 5, lines 42
26 and 43 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "paragraphs R and S" and inserting the
27 following: 'paragraph R'

28 Amend the bill by inserting after section 10 the following:

29 '**Sec. 11. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
30 allocations are made.

31 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

32 **Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center Z222**

33 Initiative: Allocates ongoing funds for the prospective costs of certain employees within
34 the Department of Health and Human Services being allowed to participate in the 1998
35 Special Plan effective October 1, 2025.

36	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
37	Personal Services	\$20,684	\$28,131
38			
39	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$20,684	\$28,131
40	Riverview Psychiatric Center Z219		

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 260, L.D. 579 (5-344)

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for the prospective costs of certain employees within the Department of Health and Human Services being allowed to participate in the 1998 Special Plan effective October 1, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$573	\$779
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$573	\$779

Riverview Psychiatric Center Z219

Initiative: Allocates ongoing funds for the prospective costs of certain employees within the Department of Health and Human Services being allowed to participate in the 1998 Special Plan effective October 1, 2025.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$38,680	\$52,604
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$38,680	\$52,604

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
DEPARTMENT OF
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$573	\$779
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$59,364	\$80,735
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$59,937	\$81,514

RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAINE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**Retirement System - Retirement Allowance Fund 0085**

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the increase in the unfunded actuarial liability as a result of allowing the service retirement benefits for certain employees within the Department of Health and Human Services earned under the regular state employee and teacher plan to be calculated under the 1998 Special Plan effective October 1, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$2,855,717	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$2,855,717	\$0

**RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAINE PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES**

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$2,855,717	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$2,855,717	\$0

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 260, L.D. 579 (S-344)

SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$2,856,290	\$779
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$59,364	\$80,735
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$2,915,654</u>	<u>\$81,514</u>

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. The amendment specifies that the persons to be added to the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System under this legislation are employees of the Department of Health and Human Services employed on October 1, 2025 or hired thereafter who are in the Mental Health Worker I job classification, the Mental Health Worker II job classification, the Mental Health Worker III job classification or the Mental Health Worker IV job classification.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 579****LR 1673(02)****An Act to Include Certain Mental Health Workers Under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement****Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (5-344)****Committee: Labor****Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$2,856,290	\$779	\$809	\$840
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$2,856,290	\$779	\$809	\$840
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$59,364	\$80,735	\$83,884	\$87,155

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill adds Mental Health Worker I, Mental Health Worker II, Mental Health Worker III and Mental Health Worker IV positions in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to the 1998 Special Plan effective October 1, 2025 and allows the service retirement benefits already earned by those employees under the State Employee and Teacher program to be calculated under the 1998 Special Plan.

This bill includes one-time General Fund appropriation of \$2,855,717 in fiscal year 2025-26 to the Retirement Allowance Fund within the Maine Public Employees Retirement System for the increase in the unfunded actuarial liability created as a result of the retroactive provisions in this bill. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 18-A, unfunded liabilities may not be created except those that result from experience losses. General Fund appropriations of \$573 and \$779 and Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$59,364 and \$80,735 in fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27, respectively, are provided to various programs within DHHS for the increase in the employer's retirement contributions on a prospective basis.