

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1986

S.P. 794

In Senate, June 11, 2025

An Act to Fund Collective Bargaining Agreements with Judicial Branch Employees

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** the Judicial Department is in the process of renegotiating collective
4 bargaining agreements with the 4 bargaining units representing Judicial Department
5 employees; and

6 **Whereas,** this legislation authorizes funding of any agreements ratified by December
7 31, 2025; and

8 **Whereas,** it is the responsibility of the Legislature to act upon those portions of
9 collective bargaining agreements negotiated by the judicial branch that require legislative
10 action; and

11 **Whereas,** the judicial branch and the Legislature share a desire to address in a timely
12 manner the needs of certain state employees excluded from collective bargaining units; and

13 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
14 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
15 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
16 therefore,

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

18 **Sec. 1. Adjustment of salary schedules for fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-**
19 **27.** The salaries and stipends for the Judicial Department employees in the administrative
20 services bargaining unit, the supervisory services bargaining unit, the law enforcement
21 bargaining unit and the professional services bargaining unit and employees referred to in
22 section 2 must be adjusted consistent with the terms of any agreements ratified by
23 December 31, 2025.

24 **Sec. 2. Other employees; similar and equitable treatment.** The State Court
25 Administrator is authorized to grant similar and equitable treatment consistent with this Act
26 for employees of the Judicial Department who are excluded from collective bargaining
27 pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1282, subsection 5, paragraphs C,
28 D, E and F.

29 **Sec. 3. Costs to General Fund.** Costs to the General Fund must be provided in
30 the Salary Plan program, General Fund account in the Department of Administrative and
31 Financial Services up to a \$10,000,000.00 combined total for the fiscal year ending June
32 30, 2026 and the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 to implement the economic terms of the
33 collective bargaining agreements made between the Judicial Department and the Maine
34 Service Employees Association for the administrative services bargaining unit, the
35 supervisory services bargaining unit and the professional services bargaining unit; made
36 between the Judicial Department and the Maine State Law Enforcement Association for
37 the law enforcement bargaining unit; and for the costs of those Judicial Department
38 employees referred to in section 2 who are excluded from collective bargaining pursuant
39 to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1282, subsection 5, paragraphs C, D, E and
40 F.

41 **Sec. 4. Contingent effective date.** This Act takes effect only upon the ratification
42 by December 31, 2025 of collective bargaining agreements made between the Judicial

1 Department and the Maine Service Employees Association for the administrative services
2 bargaining unit, the supervisory services bargaining unit and the professional services
3 bargaining unit and between the Judicial Department and the Maine State Law
4 Enforcement Association for the law enforcement bargaining unit.

5 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
6 takes effect when approved.

7 SUMMARY

8 This bill authorizes funding for collective bargaining agreements ratified by December
9 31, 2025 by the Judicial Department and the 4 bargaining units representing Judicial
10 Department employees.