

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGING, RETIREMENT AND VETERANS

BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1986

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTF	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT TO RESTORE RETIREMENT CREDIT TO
2320 EMPLOYEES PREVIOUSLY RECEIVING SUCH CREDIT

PL 1985
c. 798

Sponsor: MARTIN, J.
Committee Report: OTP-A

H-663	CA	H	S
S-531	PEARSON	H	S

SUMMARY: The bill as amended in committee clearly carries out the intent of the legislation to provide a full years service credit to two legislative employees who served as Assistant Clerk of the House of Representatives and Assistant Secretary of the Senate during the period January 1, 1978 and January 1, 1984. Rule changes by the Board of Trustees of the Maine State Retirement System promulgated in 1978 altered the practice of counting years of service from giving these legislative employees a full years service credit for the legislative session to providing only a half year credit. The Senate Amendment removes an appropriation. The appropriation is included in the amendment of LD 2231 including the bills passed this session in the recodification of the retirement statutes.

LD AN ACT TO INSURE THE RIGHTS OF THE STAFF OF THE
2340 PROJECTS SERVING PRESCHOOL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN
AND OTHER PRESCHOOL TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE MAINE STATE RETIREMENT

PL 1986
c. 721

Sponsor: RYDELL, Clark, N., Maybury, Taylor
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 2135. OTP

S-516	PEARSON		
S-518	PEARSON	H	S

SUMMARY: The original bill and the new draft make it clear that the preschool teachers hired by school administrative units to teach in preschool classes for handicapped students should be included in the definition of teacher for the purpose of membership in the Maine State Retirement System. The original bill would have also grandparented the employees of the Preschool Coordination Projects for Handicapped Children who had been contributing to the system and provided for them to continue their membership in the State Retirement System.

During the committee's deliberations on the bill, it became apparent that there was a larger problem with the status of the Preschool Coordination Projects and that they lacked a "legal employer" for the purposes of making contributions to the federal Social Security System. The new draft creates a Preschool Handicapped Coordination Services Council to act as the employer of the project personnel. It provided that all employees will contribute to the federal Social Security System. The newly established council is an independent state agency and therefore is eligible to become a participating district within the Maine State Retirement System. This participating district option will allow those employees who are members of the Maine State Retirement System to continue their membership through the new participating district if they choose. The new draft also makes the bill an emergency so that the new retirement provisions can go into effect at the start of the fiscal year on July 1.

The Senate Amendment B (S-518) adds an appropriation section which transfers money from the Department of Educational and Cultural Services teacher retirement account to the preschool project account to pay for the employer's share of Social Security and Maine State Retirement for the new council's employees. Senate Amendment A (S-516) would only have provided funds for the employer's share of Maine State Retirement.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR
2366 CONFIDENTIAL STATE EMPLOYEES

PL 1985
C. 795

Sponsor: MARTIN J.
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 2197. OTP

SUMMARY: The new draft of the bill provides an adjustment to the calculation of the pensions of confidential employees to compensate for the loss in benefits resulting from State payment of the confidential employees' retirement contributions. The bill provides for the adjustment to start as of July 1983. The factor is reduced each year thereafter and will become zero when the savings benefit of the State payment of employees' retirement contributions compensates for the reduction in retirement benefits.