

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 699

S. P. 248

In Senate, February 8, 1973

Referred to Committee on Veterans and Retirement. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Richardson of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT** Relating to Lowering of the Years of Service to Obtain a Vested Right in State Retirement System for Employees of Participating Local Districts.

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

R. S., T. 5, § 1121, sub-§ 1, ¶ A, amended. The 2nd sentence of paragraph A of subsection 1 of section 1121 of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 4-A of chapter 590 of the public laws of 1969, is further amended to read as follows:

Any member not in service may retire at age 60 or thereafter on a service retirement allowance upon written application to the board of trustees setting forth at what time he desires to be retired, provided he has at least 10 years of creditable service ~~or~~, 5 full terms as a Legislator or 7½ years of creditable service rendered solely in a participating local district or a combination of districts, any part of which service must have been rendered when he was, or could have been under then existing law, a contributing member to any publicly supported contributory retirement system sponsored by the State of Maine, provided further at the effective date of the retirement allowance, his contributions are on deposit in the Members' Contribution Fund.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is to lower the amount of creditable service time needed to acquire vested rights in the MSRS for participating local district

employees. Due to the greater mobility of participating local district employees and the lack of portability and continuity of service, it is felt that 10 years is far too long a time for a participating local district employee to wait for vesting. Far more interruptions in service and loss of time in the Maine State Retirement System are experienced in municipalities and quasi-municipal operations due to the number of entities and the variety of MSRS memberships than is found in state service or service as a teacher.

This bill, in no way, will affect the minimum pension of \$80, Title 5, section 1121, subsection 2, paragraph A, subparagraph (4), nonoccupational disability, Title 5, section 1122, subsection 1, paragraph A, or survivor's benefits, Title 5, section 1124, subsection 1, paragraph B, subparagraph (1), division (a), any of the so-called 10-year special provisions.