

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 966

S. P. 303

In Senate, February 21, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Richardson of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**RESOLVE, Providing Funds to University of Maine for Upgrading
University Professional Salaries.**

Funds provided for upgrading university professional salaries. Resolved: That there is appropriated from the General Fund to the University of Maine, the sum of \$6,000,000, in addition to any other appropriations to the university and in addition to moneys already budgeted by the university for salaries during the next biennium for unclassified professional employees, to be used to bring university professional employees' salaries to the near equivalent of other state employees' salaries.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This appropriation is to enable the trustees of the University of Maine to extend the benefits of state pay scales given by the 105th Legislature to state employees and to so-called "classified employees" of the University of Maine, to the unclassified or professional employees of the university, who were not then included. It would provide average increases to this group in order for them to catch up, of about 8% each year of the biennium.

It is the intent of the Legislature that this appropriation be used by the board of trustees of the university to raise professional salaries at the University of Maine to a level more consistent with those of other state employees, as was done for university classified employees by the direction of the 105th Legislature at its special session in 1972. This appropriation should not be considered a substitute for any portion of the budget submitted to the

106th Legislature by the University; but as a supplement for the purpose stated.

During the present biennium those professional employees of the University lost considerably; during the last 2 years inflation reduced real income by some 10 to 12%; those employees received average salary increases of 2.36% the first year, and 3.5% the 2nd year of the current biennium. State employee and university classified employee average increases for the same 2 years were 11 and 11%, for a total of 22%.

At the same time state pay scales were figured to go beyond fighting inflation, and to bring state employees to salary levels more competitive with those of Maine private industry and public employees of other nearby states. The average university faculty salary at the various levels, by comparison with average salaries in New Hampshire and Vermont are as follows:

	1971-72		
	Maine	N. H.	Vt.
Full professors	\$16,661	\$18,419	\$18,044
Associate professors	13,605	13,812	14,399
Assistant professors	10,934	11,380	11,733
Instructors	9,473	9,492	9,917