

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 2167

H. P. 1723

House of Representatives, January 2, 1974

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Silverman of Calais.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FOUR

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**AN ACT to Pay the Increased Cost of the Health Insurance  
Program for State Employees and their Dependents.**

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

Whereas, inflation and the resultant rise in the cost of living are creating a hardship for state employees through the serious erosion of their wages; and

Whereas, the rising premium rates of the Health Insurance Program for state employees contributes to the erosion of employee wages; and

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

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

**R. S., T. 5, § 285, sub-§ 4, amended.** Subsection 4 of section 285 of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 543 of the public laws of 1967, and as amended by section I of chapter 588 of the public laws of 1969, is further amended by adding a new sentence at the end to read as follows:

**The State of Maine, through the board of trustees, shall pay 100% of any increased cost of health insurance which may be required.**

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

State employees find their wages eroded by the increasing cost of health insurance. It is the purpose of this Act to have the State bear the full costs of any future rate increase in the state employee's Health Insurance Program.