

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2172

H. P. 1728

House of Representatives, January 2, 1974

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. McCormick of Union.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

**AN ACT to Provide Additional Longevity Steps for Employees of the
Bureau of Corrections.**

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

Whereas, turnover in State Government is a severe problem; and

Whereas, the Bureau of Corrections has an unusually high employee turnover rate; and

Whereas, this turnover rate is the source of large training costs for new employees; 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:

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1963, c. 202, § 2, amended. Section 2 of chapter 202 of the private and special laws of 1963 is amended by adding at the end the following:

Said longevity provisions shall amount to a 5% or a one-step increase as provided in the State Personnel Board's Compensation Plan for Classified Positions, after completion of 8 years of service with the State, provided that the

last 5 years of employment shall have been continuous and an additional 5% or one-step increase as provided in the State Personnel Board's Compensation Plan for Classified Positions, after 15 years of service with the State, provided that the last 10 years of employment shall have been continuous, except that employees of the Bureau of Corrections of the Department of Mental Health and Corrections shall receive their longevity increases based on the following formula: First longevity step at the completion of 4 years' service; 2nd longevity step at the completion of 9 years' service; 3rd longevity step at the completion of 14 years' service and 4th longevity step at the completion of 19 years' service.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections the sum of \$257,119 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

It is the purpose of this bill that increased longevity steps be provided correctional workers in order to assist the Bureau of Corrections in retaining qualified personnel and, therefore, reduce the amount of employee turnover within the bureau and providing the State with well-trained career state employees.