

# 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. 2263**

S. P. 783

In Senate, January 2, 1974

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Henley of Oxford.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FOUR

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**AN ACT** Relating to Recruiting and Retention Incentives for the  
**National Guard.**

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

Whereas, the Maine National Guard is confronted with abnormally high personnel attrition factors in 1974; and

Whereas, any failure to maintain unit personnel strength totals may jeopardize retention of the engineering type units now in the Maine National Guard troop list; and

Whereas, the present troop list composition has made, and will continue to make, invaluable contributions in manpower and dollar savings to the people of Maine by its annual in-state training programs; and

Whereas, the following legislation will assist in providing a needed incentive for enlistment of replacements as well as reenlistment of current personnel essential to strength maintenance; 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. R. S., T. 37-A, c. 20, additional.** Title 37-A of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 20 to read as follows:

### CHAPTER 20

#### RECRUITING AND RETENTION INCENTIVES

##### § 1015. Bonuses, general

The Adjutant General is authorized to develop and administer a program of enlistment and reenlistment bonuses from, and to the extent funds are available within, the departmental appropriation accounts.

Bonuses, when granted, shall be in the amount of \$50 each.

##### § 1016. Initial enlistment bonus

A bonus shall be awarded to each initial enlistment in the Maine National Guard of persons enlisting without any prior service in a federal or state, active or reserve military force. The period of initial enlistment must be for the number of years prescribed by the regulations of the national military organizations. When entitlement is established, the initial enlistment bonus shall be awarded at the time of departure for the period of basic training.

##### § 1017. Reenlistment bonus

A one time reenlistment bonus shall be awarded for an extension of service of 2 or more years when accomplished concurrently with termination of any obligated period of service and prior to attaining 10 or more total years of active service.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** To support this program there is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974 from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to the Office of the Adjutant General the amount of \$12,000. Any unexpended balance shall not be lapsed but shall be carried forward to be expended for the same purpose.

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

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to allow bonuses as an incentive in recruiting and retaining members of the National Guard.