

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 2565

H. P. 2022

House of Representatives, March 8, 1974

Reported by Mr. Carter from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

AN ACT Advancing the Effective Date of a Pay Adjustment for State, Maine Maritime Academy and Classified and Unclassified University of Maine Employees.

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

Whereas, the Legislature has granted a cost-of-living salary adjustment to take effect July 1, 1974; and

Whereas, it is important to immediately bring employees' salaries to a level consistent with competitive salaries and the increased cost of living; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to prevent undue hardship on the State's invaluable 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., 1973, c. 99, Sec. 6, amended. Section 6 of chapter 99 of the private and special laws of 1973 is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6. Effective date. The first adjustment of the salary plan shall be effective with the first pay period in July, 1973, and the second adjustment with the first pay period in ~~July~~ April, 1974.

Sec. 2. Intent. It is the intent of the Legislature that up to \$158,250 for University of Maine classified employees, \$302,619 for University of Maine professional employees and \$14,181 for Maine Maritime Academy employees will be funded from funds available in the State Employees Salary Plan Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974 to cover this additional 3 months' cost.

Sec. 3. Retired state employees. All members of the State Retirement System, notwithstanding the provisions of the Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1128 to the contrary, and eligible to retire on April 1, 1974, who retire within 45 days of the effective date of this Act, shall be entitled to similar and equitable treatment, effective the first day period in April of 1974 or upon their retirement date whichever is later, in the form of retirees' cost-of-living adjustment originally scheduled to be put into effect July 1, 1974.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, any teacher who is teaching under a valid contract and is eligible to retire on April 1, 1974, may continue to teach until such time as said contract is fulfilled and may then apply for a retirement allowance, the effective date of which can be no earlier than the day following completion of the contractual obligations. The amount of the retirement allowances shall be increased by that percentage that had been applied to retirement allowances during 1974, provided that the teacher shall have submitted a letter of intent, countersigned by the superintendent, headmaster of an academy or other comparative appointing authority, and in possession of the Board of Trustees no later than 45 days after the effective date of this Act.

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 Act is to advance by 3 months the effective date of a cost-of-living salary adjustment approved by the Legislature for State, Maine Maritime Academy and University of Maine classified employees in view of the untoward erosion of their wages due to inflationary pressures.