

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1351**

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H. P. 1071

House of Representatives, March 24, 1975

On motion of Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Clark of Freeport.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT to Provide Automatic Cost-of-living Wage Adjustments Every Six Months for State Employees.**

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

**Sec. 1. Salary increase; effective date.** There shall be an adjustment in the current State Salary Plan based upon point changes, if any, in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, U. S. City Average, All Items — Series A, 1967 = 100, published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, hereinafter called the CPI. Such adjustment shall become effective on January 1, 1976, and every 6 months thereafter, on July 1 and January 1 each succeeding year.

**Sec. 2. Amount of adjustments, limitations.** Each step of the State Salary Plan shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to the percentage change in the CPI since April 1, 1975 or the last point level of the CPI that caused such adjustment. The most recent CPI available just prior to the effective date of the adjustment shall be used. Adjustments that result in an increase shall not exceed 4%. Adjustments that result in a decrease shall not exceed the percentage of the most recent increase. Such adjustments shall be calculated to the nearest 0.5%. Where these adjustment limitations prevent complete adjustment of salaries to reflect the changes in the CPI, the changes not so reflected shall be included in the calculations for the next adjustment period. Such carry over shall not continue beyond one year of its initial calculation. In no event shall the State Salary Plan be decreased below the authorized pay rate of April 1, 1975.

**Sec. 3. Unclassified employees subject to Governor and Council determination.** With respect to unclassified employees whose wage rates are

subject to Governor and Council determination, the Governor and Council shall grant similar and equitable treatment.

**Sec. 4. Unclassified employees not subject to Governor and Council determination.** With respect to unclassified employees whose wage rates are not subject to determination by the Governor and Council, the authorities responsible for determining the wage rates of such employees shall grant similar and equitable treatment.

**Sec.5. Utilization by other funds.** Wages of employees in departments supported by the General Highway Fund, Special Revenue Funds or other funds shall not be adjusted from moneys provided for the General Fund Pay Plan, but shall be adjusted from funds available to the department from other sources.

**Sec. 6. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$1,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976 to effectuate as of January 1, 1976 a "cost-of-living" pay adjustment not to exceed 4% and there is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$2,317,404 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977 to effectuate as of each of the following dates: July 1, 1976 and January 1, 1977 a "cost-of-living" pay adjustment not to exceed 4%. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
STATE EMPLOYEES SALARIES		
Personal Services	\$1,000,000	\$2,317,404

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this Act is to provide automatic "cost-of-living" wage adjustments every 6 months for state employees.