

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1980

H. P. 1813 House of Representatives, January 19, 1976
Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up
for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Farnham of Hampden.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT to Increase Classified and Unclassified State Employees' Pay.

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

Whereas, it is imperative that state employee salaries be adjusted to reflect the greatly increasing cost of living if dedicated and efficient state employees are to be retained in state service; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to provide a cost-of-living salary increase for state classified and unclassified 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. Salary increases. An amount of 12% shall be added to the weekly dollar amount of each step of the current State Salary Plan, but this amount shall be no less than \$16 nor more than \$35. New hourly rates shall be computed to reflect these increases based on a 40-hour week. Weekly amounts shall be rounded to the nearest 10¢.

Sec. 2. Unclassified employees subject to Governor and Council determination. Notwithstanding any other provision of law with respect to unclassified employees whose wage rates are subject to Governor and Council

determination, the Governor shall grant similar and equitable treatment to individuals currently holding such positions.

Sec. 3. 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. 4. Utilization by other funds. Wages of employees in departments supported by the Highway Fund, Special Revenue Funds or other funds shall not be adjusted from moneys provided for the General Fund Salary Plan Fund, but shall be adjusted from funds available to the department from their own sources.

Sec. 5. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$3,159,376 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976 and the sum of \$6,318,752 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
SALARY PLAN FUND		
State Employees Fund		
Personal Services		
Classified Employees	\$2,594,118	\$5,188,236
Unclassified Employees	565,258	1,130,516
	<u>\$3,159,376</u>	<u>\$6,318,752</u>

Any balance remaining in this fund shall carry forward until June 30, 1977 to be used for the same purposes.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved and shall be retroactive to the first pay period in January, 1976.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill proposes an increase to the salaries of classified and unclassified state employees. The increase proposed is 12% to the weekly dollar amount of each step of the current State Salary Plan, but is to be no less than \$16 nor more than \$35 weekly. This bill carries an appropriation of \$3,159,376 for fiscal year 1975-76 and \$6,318,752 for fiscal year 1976-77. The bill provides that the increase is retroactive to the first pay period in January, 1976.