

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
107TH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 663, L.D.
2087, Bill, "AN ACT to Establish the Dates of Legislative Sessions
and to Clarify Laws Relating to Expenses of Legislators."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the
enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §2, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 51,
is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§2. Salary, expenses and travel of Members of the Legislature and
representatives of Indian tribes

Each Member of the Senate and House of Representatives,
beginning with the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday of
January, 1977 and thereafter, shall receive \$4,500 in the first
year and \$2,500 in the 2nd year of each biennium, and shall be
paid for travel at each legislative session once each week at
the same rate per mile to and from his place of abode as state
employees receive, the mileage to be determined by the most
reasonable direct route, except that Legislators may be reimbursed
for tolls paid for travel on the Maine Turnpike provided they
have a receipt for payment of the tolls, such tolls to be
reimbursed where Legislators use the Maine Turnpike in traveling
to and from sessions of the Legislature or in performance of
duly authorized committee assignments. Each Legislator is
entitled to mileage on the first day of the session, and such
amounts of his salary and expenses at such times as the Legislature
may determine during the session, and the balance at the end thereof.

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The first regular session of the Legislature shall adjourn no later than 100 legislative days after its convening and the 2nd regular session of the Legislature shall adjourn no later than 50 legislative days after its convening. The Legislature, in case of emergency, may by a vote of 2/3 of the Members of each House present and voting, extend the date for adjournment for the first or 2nd regular session by no more than 5 legislative days, and in case of further emergency, may by a vote of 2/3 of the Members of each House present and voting, further extend the date for adjournment by 5 additional legislative days. The times for adjournment for the first and 2nd regular sessions may also be extended for one additional legislative day for the purpose of considering possible objections of the Governor to any bill or resolution presented to him by the Legislature under the Constitution,
Article IV, Part Third, Section 2.

Each Member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall receive a meal and housing allowance in the amount of \$25 for each day in attendance at sessions of the Legislature and for each day he occupies overnight accommodations away from either home/immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each Member shall be entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of \$12 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding \$13 per day. Each Member shall also receive an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$200.

The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall receive an additional 50% above regular compensation, the majority and minority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives shall receive an additional 25% above regular compensation and the assistant majority and minority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives shall receive an additional 12 1/2% above regular compensation.

In addition to the salary paid for the first and 2nd regular sessions of the Legislature, when a special session is called, the Members of the Senate and House of Representatives shall each be paid \$25 for every day's attendance, expenses and mileage as aforesaid.

No additional expenses shall be paid to Legislators from the Legislative Account unless authorized by the President of the Senate or Speaker of the House of Representatives during any regular session.

The member of the Penobscot Indian Tribe and the member of the Passamaquoddy Indian Tribe elected to represent his tribe at the Legislature shall receive a compensation of \$25 for each day's attendance during the first and 2nd regular sessions and allowance for meals, housing and travel expenses as any other Member of the Senate and House of Representatives for attendance at each legislative session. For the duration of any special session of the Legislature, they shall receive the same allowances, including housing, meal and constituent service allowances, as any other Member of the Senate and House of Representatives.

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The President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House shall, at all times, whether the Legislature be in session or not, have the authority to approve accounts and vouchers for payment.

The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the floor leaders and their assistants and members of a committee, with the approval of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House as to members of a committee, may also meet on days when the Legislature is not in daily session at any convenient location within the State. Each Member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall receive \$25 for every day's attendance when meetings or daily sessions are held, a meal and housing allowance in the amount of \$25 for each day in attendance at such meetings or daily sessions and for each day he occupies overnight accommodations either away from home/immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature and actual daily mileage allowances which shall be paid at the same rate paid to state employees. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each Member shall be entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of \$12 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding \$13 per day.

Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §165, sub-§8, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 590, §8, is repealed.

Sec. 3. PL 1975, c. 652, repealed. Chapter 652 of the Public Laws of 1975, passed at the First Special Session of the 107th Legislature, is repealed and shall not be printed in the Session Laws of 1975.'

OF R.

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to limit the Legislature to 100 days for the first regular session and 50 days for the 2nd. These limits can be extended 5 days by a vote of 2/3 of those members present and voting, such extension can only be made twice, totaling a maximum of 10 additional days per session. One day to act on possible vetoes is not included in the limitation on legislative days.

This amendment leaves maximum expenses at \$25 per day, and will allow the same level of expenses for the Indian Representative plus a per diem compensation of \$25 per day for each day they attend.

This amendment eliminates per diem compensation for Legislators for the 2nd annual session and leaves in effect \$25 per diem for any special session. Compensation for the regular session is \$4,500 for the first and \$2,500 for the 2nd. The net result of this amendment is to effect a savings in compensation of \$93,250 over that which would have been paid to the Legislators if there had been no changes in the Maine Constitution and Title 3, section 2 during this biennium.

Savings in Legislators' Pay	\$93,250
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April 6, 1976.

(Filing No. S-539).