

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Amount	Pay Range
\$17.00	1, 2 and 3
16.00	4, 5 and 6
15.00	7, 8 and 9
14.00	10, 11 and 12
13.00	13, 14 and 15
12.00	16, 17 and 18
11.00	19, 20 and 21
10.00	22, 23 and 24
9.00	25, 26 and 27
8.00	28, 29 and 30
7.00	31, 32 and 33
6.00	34, 35 and 36
5.00	37, 38 and 39
4.00	40, 41 and 42

New hourly rates shall be computed to reflect these increases, based on a 40-hour week. Weekly hourly amounts shall be rounded to the nearest 10¢.

Sec. 2. 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 to all individuals currently holding these 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 these 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 departments from their own sources.

Sec. 5. University of Maine and Maine Maritime Academy. Wages of the University of Maine and the Maine Maritime Academy employees shall be adjusted in the same manner as state employees. Funds appropriated shall be paid to the University of Maine and the Maine Maritime Academy on a quarterly basis according to a plan approved by the State Budget Officer and on the basis of detailed justification furnished to the State Controller.

Sec. 6. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Salary Plan Fund the sum of \$2,673,532 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976 and the sum of \$5,906,902 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
SALARY PLAN FUND		
State Employees' Fund	\$2,673,532	\$5,906,902

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

Emergency clause; retroactivity. 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

The cost of living in the United States rose 28.5% in the 36-month period from June 1972 to June 1975. Average hourly earnings of production workers in manufacturing in the United States rose 25.6%, and in the State of Maine 26.6%, during the same period of time. State employees' wages were increased by 5% or \$8 in October 1973 and in April 1974. The purpose of this Act is to provide a wage increase for State, Maine Maritime Academy and University of Maine employees to absorb at least in part the impact of double-digit inflation and to restore wages to a respectable level.