

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 2361**

S. P. 821

In Senate, June 14, 1976

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Huber of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

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**AN ACT to Revise and Reallocate Appropriations from the General Fund for the Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1976 and June 30, 1977 and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government.**

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

Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until after the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

Whereas, certain obligations and expenses incident to the operation of state departments and institutions will become due and payable immediately; and

Whereas, in order to provide a fair and adequate classification and compensation plan for state employees, it is essential that a classification appeals process be initiated at the earliest possible time; 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. Appropriations from General Fund.** In order to provide for necessary expenditures of State Government and other purposes for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1976 and June 30, 1977 the following sums or as much

thereof as shall severally be found necessary, as designated in the following tabulations, are appropriated out of any moneys in the General Fund not otherwise appropriated.

**Sec. 2. Allotment required.** Upon receipt of allotments duly approved by the Governor and Council based upon work programs submitted to the State Budget Officer, the State Controller shall authorize expenditures of these appropriations, together with expenditures for other purposes necessary to the conduct of State Government on the basis of such allotments and not otherwise. Allotments for personal services, capital expenditures and amounts for all other departmental expenses shall not exceed the amounts shown in the budget document or as they may be revised by the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs unless recommended by the State Budget Officer and approved by the Governor and Council.

**Sec. 3. Temporary curtailment of allotments.** Whenever it appears to the Commissioner of Finance and Administration that the anticipated income and other available funds of the State will not be sufficient to meet the expenditures authorized by the Legislature, he shall so report to the Governor and Council and they may temporarily curtail allotments equitably so that expenditures will not exceed the anticipated income and other available funds.

**Sec. 4. Transfers limited.** The Governor and Executive Council shall not approve any allotment revision for a department by which funds are transferred from one quarter to another, when the transfer will result in a request for a deficiency appropriation at a special or regular session of the Legislature.

**Sec. 5. Personal Services appropriation.** The figures in parentheses shown above each dollar amount provided for Personal Service in this Act, or as adjusted by legislative action, shall represent the total number of permanent positions at any one time. The appropriations made for Personal Services are made with the provision that the total number of permanent positions in any account shall not be increased during either year of the biennium over the total numbers shown in parentheses and used by the Legislature in computing the total dollars to be made available for Personal Services. The amounts appropriated for Personal Services include funds for the State's share of state employees retirement. The State Controller shall transfer the State's share to the Maine State Retirement System as soon as practicable after each payroll is paid.

**Sec. 6. Personal Services review.** The Budget Office, during this biennium, shall continually review with all departments the status of their personnel with the purpose of determining that all departments are expending Personal Service moneys within the intent of the Legislature and shall report any expenditures contrary to such intent to the Governor and Council and the Legislative Finance Officer.

**Sec. 7. State Pay Policy.** In order to attract and retain employees of unusual merit and ability to the service of the State of Maine, to stimulate higher efficiency among the personnel, to provide skilled leadership, to reward merit and to ensure to the people and the taxpayers of the State of Maine the

highest return in services for the necessary costs of government, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the state to provide equal pay for equal work.

**Sec. 8. Personal Services savings and flexibility.** Savings accruing within appropriations made for permanent positions may be used for nonrecurring personal services or retirement costs when recommended by the department head and the State Budget Officer, and approved by the Governor and Council. Any classification of a position and any allocation or reallocation of a position made by the director or the State Personnel Board pursuant to this section shall become effective on the first day of the fiscal year following approval by the State Budget Officer and the appropriation of funds therefor, except that the State Budget Officer may, if he determines that sufficient funds exist, authorize an effective date prior to the first day of the ensuing fiscal year. Copies of all actions and certifications shall be furnished to the Legislative Finance Officer.

**Sec. 9. Merit rating required.** The State Personnel Board is directed to require merit ratings on each individual who is recommended for a salary increase on a form prescribed by the board. Department heads are directed that the granting of merit increases be scrutinized and documented carefully. It is the intent of the Legislature that in instances where merit increases are not earned and warranted they shall be denied. The Governor and the State Budget Officer, when next preparing a budget, may include only sufficient funds for merit increases for a maximum of 60% of those employees who have not yet reached their pay grade maximum. The Director of Personnel shall institute administrative procedures ensuring equitable distribution of increases among pay ranges within each agency or other appropriate administrative unit. These procedures shall also ensure that an equitable distribution shall be provided regardless of the date of eligibility for merit increases throughout the fiscal year. The State Budget Officer shall instruct departments to prepare their next work programs on the basis that effective November 1, 1976, 60% of those employees who have not yet reached their job grade maximum shall be eligible for a merit increase and, thereafter, each of the increments within the 7 steps provided for in the compensation plan shall be awarded on the basis of merit without regard to longevity.

**Sec. 10. Number of necessary employees.** The Governor and the State Budget Officer when next preparing a Budget Document may at their discretion adjust the figures in parentheses, representing numbers of permanent positions, to reflect the number of positions which in their opinion is necessary to the proper operation of each department, institution or agency.

**Sec. 11. New or expanded programs.** No department shall establish new programs or expand existing programs beyond the scope of those programs already established, recognized and approved by the Legislature, until such program and the method of financing shall be submitted to the Budget Office for evaluation and recommendation to the Legislature, and until funds are made available therefor by the Legislature.

**Sec. 12. Federally funded programs.** It is the intent of the Legislature that in the event matching federal funds are not available as anticipated for

programs in this Act, there is no obligation to provide state funds in excess of the appropriations listed in this Act. Positions entirely or partially funded by federal or other than state sources of funds shall be considered as limited period positions, notwithstanding the figures in parentheses representing numbers of employees, should such funds be withdrawn or reduced.

**Sec. 13. Travel limitations.** It is the intent of the Legislature that out-of-state travel be limited. Any state employee who travels out-of-state on state business, such as law enforcement, collecting, bidding, industrial development, loans, etc., may continue to do so. The Legislature directs that department heads hold down cost of all travel where it is not absolutely needed. Any state employee who travels in-state after July 1, 1976, shall not be reimbursed for noon meals, unless the meal is part of an organized meeting or program or overnight travel.

**Sec. 14. Equipment to be reviewed.** The Commissioner of Finance and Administration, through the State Purchasing Agent or such other agent as he may choose, shall conduct a thorough review of all types of equipment, owned, leased or otherwise available to the several departments and agencies of the State, regardless of the source of supporting funds, combining their use, providing centralized facilities, or eliminating existing equipment and facilities, as he believes to be in the most economical, most efficient and best interests of the State.

**Sec. 15. Motor vehicle replacement policy.** The State Purchasing Agent is directed to require that requisitions for replacement motor vehicles include the age and total mileage of the motor vehicle being replaced. For the purposes of this section, motor vehicles are defined as passenger cars, panel and pickup trucks, excluding those vehicles operated by the State Police. It is the intent of the Legislature that motor vehicles shall have been in service for at least 5 years or 50,000 miles before they are replaced. This policy shall also be adopted by the State Budget Officer when next preparing a Budget Document. Exceptions to the established replacement policy shall require the prior approval of the Governor and Council.

**Sec. 16. Significant action recommended by Budget Officer.** The Budget Office shall inform the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs through the Legislative Finance Office of significant action recommended by it in the performance of the budget responsibilities hereby assigned.

**Sec. 17. Other Fund Payments.** There shall be paid from the General Highway Fund and all other special revenue funds the cost of accounting, auditing, purchasing and legal services furnished from the General Fund appropriations. This revenue shall be credited to the General Fund.

**Sec. 18. Year-end closing.** The controller is authorized to close the books as soon as practicable after the close of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1976 and June 30, 1977. Any bills presented after those dates may be paid from appropriations for the ensuing year on recommendation of the controller if within the amounts of approved allotments.

**Sec. 19. Appropriation balances at year end.** At the end of each fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing state moneys,

except those that carry forward as provided by law, shall lapse to Unappropriated Surplus as provided by the Revised Statutes of 1964, Title 5, section 1544. At the end of each fiscal year, all encumbered appropriation balances shall not be carried more than once, except in those accounts which carry forward from year to year by law.

**Sec. 20.** The State Budget Officer is directed to take appropriate action as provided in the last paragraph of the Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1667 if lapsed balances from 1975-76 are not sufficient to fund the appropriations of 1976-77 under this Act.

**Sec. 21. Other appropriation measures.** It is intended that the language in the preceding sections of this Act shall apply to all other appropriation measures enacted by the Legislature.

**Appropriations  
from  
General Fund  
1976-77**

**PART A**

**State-wide**

**Capital Construction and Improvements**

Chapter 103, P & SL 1973

Stevens School	\$ (96,000)
Parks and Recreation	(410,000)
Aeronautics	(200,000)

The appropriations remaining in the above named departments from Chapter 103 of the Private and Special Laws of 1973, may be expended among the projects enumerated in that Act in a manner determined appropriate by the respective departments.

**Finance and Administration**

**Bureau of Taxation**

**Elderly Householder's Tax and Rent Refund**

All Other	800,000
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The appropriation for FY 75-76 was in excess of need, however, the appropriation for FY 76-77 is not sufficient to cover estimated needs.

**Bureau of the Budget**

**Employees Group Health Insurance Program**

All Other	712,000
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Funds the second year of the biennium. Includes \$200,000 for the University of Maine and \$12,000 for the Maine Maritime Academy.

**Appropriations  
from  
General Fund**

1976-77

**Bureau of the Budget, (continued)**

**Employees Group Health Insurance Program**

Any balance remaining in this account at June 30, 1976 shall carry for the same purpose.

**Compensation Plan**

Personal Services

1,335,000

Provides funds for implementation of the new employees compensation plan.

**Temporary Compensation Review Board**

Unallocated

20,000

Provides funds for per diem and expenses.

**Employees mileage allowance**

All Other

80,000

Provides funds to increase mileage allowance from 12¢ to 13¢ as provided in this Act.

**Attorney General — Office of the  
Chief Medical Examiner**

Personal Services

21,000

All Other

35,000

Provides funds for an increase in salary for the new Chief Medical Examiner and for regular operating expenses.

**Secretary of State  
Election Division**

All Other

20,000

**Treasurer of State  
Departmental Operations**

All Other

400,000

Funds appropriated for FY 75-76 were in excess of needs for the Inventory Tax Reimbursement, however, the appropriation for FY 76-77 is not sufficient.

Appropriations  
from  
General Fund

1976-77

**Legislative****Legislative Research**

Positions	(2)
Personal Services	30,272
All Other	13,326

Funds 2 full-time Research Technicians and 2 part-time Proofreaders and provides funds for additional printing costs.

**Judicial****Supreme Judicial and Superior Courts**

Positions	(3)
Personal Services	45,500
All Other	9,800
Capital	2,000

Provides positions and funds for the seventh Justice.

**Educational and Cultural Services****Peter Dana Point**

All Other	14,000
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Provides funds for Special and Adult Education and repair of buildings.

**Pleasant Point**

All Other	17,500
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Provides funds for Special and Adult Education and repair of buildings.

**Indian Island**

All Other	13,000
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Provides funds for Special and Adult Education and repair of buildings.

**Osteopathic Loan Fund**

All Other	30,000
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It is the intent of the Legislature that the individual loan amount granted to each student shall not exceed the 1975-76 level.



	Appropriations from General Fund 1976-77
<b>Central Maine Vocational Technical Institute</b>	
All Other	20,550
Provides additional operating funds. In- creases undedicated revenue \$20,550.	
<b>Eastern Maine Vocational Technical Institute</b>	
All Other	22,900
Provides additional operating funds. In- creases undedicated revenue \$22,900.	
<b>Kennebec Valley Vocational Technical Institute</b>	
All Other	8,500
Provides additional operating funds. In- creases undedicated revenue \$8,500.	
<b>Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute</b>	
All Other	23,200
Provides additional operating funds. In- creases undedicated revenue \$23,200.	
<b>Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute</b>	
All Other	73,400
Provides additional operating funds. In- creases undedicated revenue \$73,400.	
<b>Washington County Vocational Technical Institute</b>	
All Other	12,050
Provides additional operating funds. In- creases undedicated revenue \$12,050.	
<b>Human Services</b>	
<b>Maine Health Systems Agency, Inc.</b>	
All Other	25,000
Provides necessary operating funds.	
<b>Medical Care</b>	
All Other	700,000

	Appropriations from General Fund 1976-77
<b>Human Services, (continued)</b>	
<b>Intermediate Care</b>	
All Other	1,584,500
<b>Aid to Families with Dependent Children</b>	
All Other	(4,188,400)
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">Commencing October 1, 1976, all amounts of money not to exceed \$1,000,000 saved and projected to be saved from February 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977 within the AFDC Program from any source shall be used to increase grant payments.</p>	
<b>Cystic Fibrosis</b>	
All Other	17,500
<b>General Assistance</b>	
All Other	1,354,000
<b>Special Resolves</b>	
All Other	(1,600)
<b>Priority Social Services — Elderly</b>	
All Other	144,000
<b>Nonelderly</b>	
Personal Services	(5) 65,000
All Other	469,000
<b>Bureau of Rehabilitation</b>	
All Other	25,200
<b>Office of Dental Health</b>	
Personal Services	(1) 23,000
<b>Supplemental Security Income —</b>	
Mandatory and Optional Payments	

It is the intent of the Legislature that any increases in the federal supplemental security income benefit levels, effective the same month as the federal increase takes

Appropriations  
from  
General Fund  
1976-77

**Supplemental Security Income, (continued)**

effect, shall be passed along in the same total dollar amount of any such increase to each beneficiary in the optional program and to each beneficiary in the mandatory program who has not reached the state ceiling.

The department shall immediately take action necessary to raise, effective July 1st, the state ceiling for an individual and for a couple in the same total dollar amount as the federal SSI increase. Such pass-along of a federal benefit increase shall not be made to individuals in foster homes or boarding homes. In the event that funds are available and without limiting the pass-alongs outlined herein, the department may, in its discretion, provide for increased payment rates to foster homes and boarding homes.

Any unexpended balance of this account shall not be transferred to another account and shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward in the same account from year to year to be expended for the same purpose.

**Medical Audit**

Personal Services  
All Other

(6)           72,000  
                  8,000

To provide funds for audit staff for the Department of Human Services to initiate an audit program on all providers and suppliers of health and medical services, including but not limited to boarding homes, intermediate care facilities, hospitals, physicians, dentists, pharmacists, and psychologists.

**Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention**

All Other

150,000

Provides funds to continue operation of the program.

Appropriations  
from  
General Fund  
1976-77

**Governor's Committee on Children and Youth**

Unallocated 3,000

**Advisory Council on the Status of Women**

Unallocated 2,500

**Maine Human Services Council**

Personal Services (I) 17,300

All Other 10,800

**Mental Health and Corrections**

**Community Mental Health**

All Other 335,000

Funds to pick up the declining federal share of support to mental health centers.

**Pineland Center**

Unallocated 300,000

Provides partial funding to upgrade facilities and increase staffing up to 61 positions to meet accreditation standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. Any balance of this appropriation remaining June 30, 1977 shall not lapse but shall carry forward into the next fiscal year to be expended for the same purposes. This appropriation provides funding in addition to funds which may be utilized for the same purpose under chapter 757 of the Public Laws of 1975. The 61 additional authorized positions at the Pineland Center may be funded as necessary from either funding source.

**Correctional Program Improvement**

All Other 100,000

Maintenance of community programs for juvenile and adult correctional clients (halfway houses, etc.). Also provides for a correctional system contingency.

**Community Mental Retardation Services**

All Other 100,000

Maintenance of programs in 3 regions of

Appropriations  
from  
General Fund  
1976-77

**Community Mental Retardation Services, (continued)**

the State supplying services, training, monitoring of boarding and nursing homes with retarded citizens.

**Pharos House**

All Other

15,000

Maintenance of halfway house which does house inmates in prerelease status.

**Cerebral Palsy Centers**

All Other

20,000

**Teacher Retirement**

All Other

1,000,000

Provides funds to comply with actuarial requirements.

**Probate Laws Revision Commission**

All Other

20,000

Provides funds to complete commission study.

**District Court**

**Administration**

Unallocated

150,000

Provides \$50,000 additional funds for electronic recording and transcripts and an additional \$100,000 for the District Court Building Fund. Increases undedicated revenue \$150,000 in 1976-77.

**Department of Defense and Veterans Services**

**Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness**

Personal Services

(-9) (52,041)

All Other

(15,784)

Capital

(2,175)

Reduces positions and related expenditures for 1976-77.

**Services to Veterans**

All Other

(60,782)

Reduces funding level in 1976-77.

Appropriations  
from  
General Fund  
1976-77

<b>Department of Defense and Veterans Services (continued)</b>		
Personal Services		11,250
Provides funds to reopen a Bureau of Veterans Services Office in Aroostook County.		
<b>Capital Construction Repairs/Improvements</b>		
Capital		37,000
Provides funds for development of additional burial spaces at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery.		
<b>Saco River Corridor Commission</b>		
Unallocated		12,500
Provides operating funds.		
<b>Executive</b>		
<b>Governor's Office/Executive Council</b>		
Personal Services		(38,665)
All Other		(15,000)
Reduces appropriation for Executive Council since it has been abolished.		
<b>Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency</b>		
All Other		(100,000)
Reduces funding level of matching appropriation.		
<b>Finance and Administration</b>		
<b>Bureau of Public Improvements</b>		
All Other		2,500
<b>Bureau of Taxation — Administration</b>		
Personal Services	(-3)	(25,000)
All Other		(5,000)
Reduces 3 positions in sales tax due to different collection procedure on casual sales.		
Increases undedicated revenue \$160,000 in FY 76-77.		
<b>Maine Insurance Advisory Board</b>		
All Other		(75,000)
Reduces appropriation due to reduction in premiums.		

		Appropriations from General Fund
		1976-77
<b>University of Maine</b>		
<b>General Activities</b>		
All Other		500,000
	Provides funds for employee and faculty salary increases.	
<b>Student Aid</b>		
All Other		300,000
	Provides additional funds. These funds shall not be used for any other purpose.	
<b>Maine Maritime Academy</b>		
<b>General Activities</b>		
All Other		100,000
	Provides funds for employee salary increase.	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND — PART A		\$6,147,601
<b>PART B</b>		
<b>Sec. 1. Educational and Cultural Services</b>		
General Purpose Aid for Local Schools		
All Other		7,525,758
	Provides an additional \$3,000,000 for loss of Federal Revenue Sharing and an additional \$4,525,758 in 76-77 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of P. L. 1975, c. 660.	
<b>Sec. 2. Allocation of bonds authorized.</b> Bonds authorized in the private and special laws of 1973, chapter 136, section 3, as amended by the public laws of 1973, chapter 783, section 50, are allocated as follows:		
Education and Cultural Services		
General Purpose Aid for Local Schools		
Allocation		1,340,000

**Appropriations  
from  
General Fund  
1976-77**

**Sec. 3.** P & SL 1975, c. 40, § 1, last 4 lines, are amended to read:

0308 Education — General Purpose Aid for Local Schools	2-580	1975-76	1976-77
Unallocated		\$15,500,000	\$15,500,000
		14,000,000	14,000,000
Total Allocations		\$15,500,000	\$15,500,000
		14,000,000	14,000,000

**Sec. 4.** Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the Department of Educational and Cultural Services is authorized to expend from such appropriations and allocations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, a sum not to exceed \$6,200,000 of the appropriations from the General Fund and a sum not to exceed \$1,340,000 of the allocation of the proceeds of bonds for the purpose of completing payment of allocations to local school units at their computed allocation entitlement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976.

**Sec. 5.** The appropriations and allocations provided for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools in 1976-77 shall be expended for the purposes listed below under Parts A, B and C of this section as modified by Sec. 6.

1976-77

**Part A**

1. Elementary and Secondary Operations	\$200,400,000
2. Special Education — Local Programs	7,929,770
3. Special Education — Tuition	3,195,000
4. Vocational Education	5,967,828
5. Transportation — Operations	13,903,403
6. Transportation — Bus Purchases	1,965,668
7. Capital Outlay	710,164
8. Debt Service	26,000,000

Gross Allocation	\$260,071,833
Less P. L. 874 Funds	2,400,000

Net Allocation	\$257,671,833
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**Part B**

1. Local Leeway — For conversion to Uniform Fiscal Year	\$ 2,632,377
2. Optional Local Appropriations with State Participation	3,300,000
3. Geographic Isolation	285,639



	Appropriations from General Fund 1976-77
<b>Part B, (continued)</b>	
4. Unusual Enrollment Increases	600,000
5. Private School Transportation	180,000
6. Major Capital Fund	555,000
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Total	\$ 7,553,016

**Part C**

To Provide Funds to Make Full Payment to School Administrative Units at the Level of Computed Entitlements for the Fiscal Year 1975-76. \$ 7,540,000

**Sec. 6. Limit of state's obligation.** In the event that the State's computed obligation for any individual program contained within Part A, B or C exceeds the level of funding provided for that program, any unexpended balances occurring in other programs within that Part may be applied to avoid proration of payments for any individual program.

However, in the event that the total level of funding obligations within any given Part exceeds the level of funding provided for that Part, all payments to school administrative units shall be adjusted to remain within the appropriation provided for that Part. In the event that a balance exists in item 2 of Part B, such balance may be applied to meet any funding deficiency which may occur in item 1 of Part B. After all payments have been made, all unexpended balances occurring in Parts A, B and C of section 5 shall be credited to the Major Capital Construction Fund which shall be a nonlapsing fund.

**TOTALS — PART B**

	1976-77
General Fund	\$ 7,525,758
Bond Allocations	1,340,000

**PART C**

**Sec. 1.** 2 MRSA § 6, sub-§ 4, 5th line from the end is repealed as follows:  
~~Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission;~~

**Sec. 2.** 2 MRSA § 6, sub-§ 5, 5th and 11th lines from the end are repealed as follows:

~~Employment Security Commission members, other than the Chairman;  
Chairman of the Industrial Accident Commission;~~

**Sec. 3.** 2 MRSA § 6, sub-§ 6, 4th and 5th lines from the end are repealed as follows:

~~Public Utilities Commission members, other than the Chairman; Industrial Accident Commission members, other than the Chairman;~~

Sec. 4. 2 MRSA § 7, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 788, § 2-A, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 7. Constitutional officers and regulatory boards

1. Constitutional officers. Notwithstanding section 6 or any other provision of law, the respective salaries of the Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor and Treasurer of State shall be as follows:

Attorney General .....	\$25,500;
Secretary of State .....	20,000;
State Auditor .....	17,500;
Treasurer of State .....	15,000;

2. Regulatory boards. Notwithstanding section 6 or any other provision of law, the salaries of the listed chairmen and of members of the following regulatory boards shall be:

Employment Security Commission

Members other than Chairman .....	\$20,475;
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Industrial Accident Commission

Chairman .....	20,475;
Members other than Chairman .....	18,900;

Public Utilities Commission

Chairman .....	22,050;
Members other than Chairman .....	18,900;

Sec. 5. 5 MRSA § 8, 1st sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 765, § 1, is further amended to read:

The State shall pay for the use of privately owned automobiles for travel by employees of the State in the business of the State not more than ~~12¢~~ 13¢ per mile for miles actually travelled by such employees on such business in any one fiscal year.

Sec. 6. 5 MRSA § 10 is amended to read:

§ 10. Payment of wages

All state officers and employees, except temporary and seasonal employees, shall be paid their salaries or wages ~~weekly~~ ~~biweekly~~, the dates of payment to be determined by the State Controller. Any state officer, whose salary is established at an annual rate, shall receive ~~weekly~~ ~~biweekly~~ a sum which will, in the year's aggregate, most nearly equal the annual rate. Payment may be made once in each calendar month ~~or fortnightly~~ to such state officers and employees as consent to such time of payment. Temporary and seasonal employees of the State shall be paid at such times as the ~~Commissioner of Finance and Administration~~ State Controller shall specify. The manner and

timing of conversion to biweekly payroll will be determined by the State Controller in such a manner as to minimize any adverse cash flow impact on state employees or the State as a result of this change.

Sec. 7. 5 MRSA § 1511 is enacted to read:

§ 1511. Reserve for General Fund Operating Capital

The State Controller is authorized, at the close of each fiscal year, to transfer from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to the Reserve for General Fund Operating Capital such amounts as may be available from time to time up to an amount of \$1,000,000 per year until a maximum of \$25,000,000 shall be achieved.

Sec. 8. 30 MRSA § 4165, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 788, § 143, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 4165. Unorganized Territory School Fund

There shall continue in existence the Unorganized Territory School Fund which shall include the existing principal of said fund arising from the public reserved lands prior to October 3, 1973 and any accrued but unexpended income from said fund as of said date. Said fund shall be held and administered by the Treasurer of State. The income only of said fund shall be credited to the General Fund in lieu of educational expenditures from other General Fund revenues.

Sec. 9. The State Controller shall credit unexpended balances of income of the Unorganized Territory School Fund subsequent to October 3, 1973 to the General Fund.

Sec. 10. 20 MRSA § 1461, sub-§ 4 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

4. Balances. Any unencumbered balance in the Unorganized Territory School Fund in excess of \$50,000 at the end of each fiscal year shall lapse to the General Fund.

Sec. 11. PL 1975, c. 601, § 2 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

Any balance over \$25,000 remaining in this appropriation as of June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1976 and ending June 30, 1977, to be expended by the Post-secondary Education Commission for the operating expenses of the commission.

Sec. 12. P & SL 1975, c. 78, § 18, the last paragraph, first sentence, under the caption EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES, Education—Grant/Loan/Scholarship Fund is amended to read:

Includes \$32,000 for 1975-76 and \$64,000 for 1976-77 and authorizes the State Department of Educational and Cultural Services to enter into ~~an agreement~~ agreements to secure four (4) positions for Maine applicants at the University of Pennsylvania in a complete course of study in its School of Veterinary Medicine an accredited school of veterinary medicine, in a com-

plete course of study in veterinary medicine, and to guarantee and pay to said ~~University~~ institutions not more than \$8,000 annually for each position.

Sec. 13. 5 MRSA § 150, 2nd ¶, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 156, is further amended to read:

The Treasurer of State, with the approval of the Governor and Council, may negotiate a temporary loan or loans in anticipation of taxes levied for that fiscal year but not exceeding a total of ~~\$10,000,000~~ \$25,000,000. The Treasurer of State is directed to pay such loan or loans in anticipation of taxes during such year and there is appropriated for any year in which the Treasurer of State and the Governor and Council deem it necessary to borrow in anticipation of taxes the sum of ~~\$10,000,000~~ \$25,000,000.

Sec. 14. 15 MRSA § 810, last sentence, is amended to read:

The Superior Court shall order reasonable compensation to be paid to counsel out of the ~~county treasury~~ state appropriation for such services in the Superior Court.

Sec. 15. 30 MRSA § 5055, sub-§ 5, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 605, § 1, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, during the fiscal year July 1, 1976, through June 30, 1977, an amount equal to 3.58% of the receipts from taxes imposed under Title 36, Parts 3 and 8, and credited to the General Fund, shall be transferred by the Treasurer of State to the Local Government Fund on the first day of each month.

Sec. 16. Notwithstanding the provision of the Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 164, subsection 3, an additional sum of \$100,000 shall be deposited in the District Court Building Fund for the fiscal year 1975-76 for Androscoggin County, Aroostook County and Piscataquis County facilities.

Sec. 17. P & SL 1973, c. 150, § 6, first sentence is amended to read:

The commission shall prepare a biennial budget and shall submit to the Legislature requests for appropriations sufficient to carry out its assigned tasks.

Sec. 18. P & SL 1973, c. 150, § 26, 2nd sentence, is repealed as follows:

~~The funds derived from the collection of such fees shall be paid into the General Fund of the State~~

Sec. 19. P & SL 1975, c. 78, § 19, amended. That part of section 19 of chapter 78 of the private and special laws of 1975 under the caption "Environmental Protection" is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 20. P & SL 1975, c. 78, § 18, amended. That part of section 18 of chapter 78 of the private and special laws of 1975 under the caption "Department of Transportation" which relates to Capital Improvements is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 21. P & SL 1975, c. 78, § 18, amended. That part of section 18 of chapter 78 of the private and special laws of 1975 under the caption "Legislative" which relates to Legislature is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any unexpended balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward from year to year to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 22. P & SL 1975, c. 103, § 1, amended. That part of section 1 of chapter 103 of the private and special laws of 1975 under the caption "Educational and Cultural Services" which relates to Library is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any unexpended balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 23. P & SL 1975, c. 78, § 19, amended. That part of section 19 of chapter 78 of the private and special laws of 1975, under the caption "Attorney General" is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Also provides funds for consultant fees for intervention in the Central Maine Power rate proceeding now pending before the PUC. Any balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 24. P & SL 1975, c. 78, § 18, amended. That part of section 18 of chapter 78 of the private and special laws of 1975 under the caption "Executive" which relates to Law Enforcement Planning and Assistance Agency is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 25. P & SL 1975, c. 90, § G, amended. That part of section G of chapter 90 of the private and special laws of 1975 under the caption "Maine Human Services Council" is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 26. P & SL 1975, c. 621, § 13 is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

Any balance remaining June 30, 1976 shall not lapse but shall carry forward to June 30, 1977 to be expended for the same purpose.

Sec. 27. PL 1975, c. 660, last paragraph, as amended by PL 1975, c. 746, § 27-A, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976, except sections 3 and 5 and section 3750 of

**Title 20 of section 2 of this Act which shall become effective when approved and except section 3748, subsection 4, last paragraph of section 2 of this Act which shall become effective July 1, 1977. Sections 6 to 10 of this Act shall take effect when approved.**

**Sec. 28.** Notwithstanding any law or regulation, the following funds of the State shall repay a portion of their outstanding loans from the General Fund during 1976-77 as set forth opposite their names.

Seed Potato Board Fund	\$ 15,000
State Lottery Fund	65,000
Postal, Printing and Supply Fund	50,000
	<hr/>
	\$130,000

**Sec. 29. Effective date.** The effective date of section 5 of this Part shall be July 1, 1976.

**PART D**

**Employees Salary Plan**

**Sec. 1. Salary increases: classified employees.** Appropriation is made from the General Fund in Part A for the purpose of implementing the salary schedules, included in section 3, recommended by the study authorized by chapter 100 of the private and special laws of 1974, hereinafter referred to as "the study." Each classified employee shall be assigned to the salary grade in section 3 recommended for his class by the study, or as determined by the Temporary Compensation Review Board, as hereinafter provided, at the same relative step (i.e., A to A, B to B, C to C, D to D, E to E, X to F, Y to G), that he is at in the range to which he is assigned on the date preceding the effective date of this Act, provided that no employee shall be assigned to any step in the recommended range above the A step if such assignment results in an increase in salary in excess of 10% and, provided further, that if placing any employee on the same relative step in the recommended range results in a decrease in salary, such employee's salary shall be increased to the first higher step within the recommended range which results in an increase in salary, provided that the salary of any classified employee whose present base salary exceeds step G of the recommended range shall not be reduced so long as any such employee remains employed in his current classification.

**Sec. 2. Salary increases: unclassified employees not subject to Governor and Council determination.** Unclassified employees not subject to Governor and Council salary determination shall be assigned to the step in the salary range in Schedule I or Schedule Ia in section 3 in which their position is assigned, as recommended by the study, or as determined by the Temporary Compensation Review Board as hereinafter provided, which results in an increase over their current actual salary, provided that in no case shall any salary of an unclassified employee be increased if his current salary exceeds step G of the recommended range, in which case such present salary shall be maintained so long as the employee remains employed in his present position.

Sec. 3. Classified positions and unclassified employees not subject to Governor and Council determination. The Personnel Director and State Budget Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that unclassified employees are assigned to a proper pay grade according to the same policy and procedure applicable to classified employees within authorized funds. Classified positions and unclassified employees not subject to Governor and Council determination shall be assigned to the appropriate pay grade in the following schedule:

## SCHEDULE I

Grade	Point	Range	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	76	81	5,200.00	5,470.40	5,740.80	6,032.00	6,323.20	6,635.20	6,968.00
2	82	87	5,324.80	5,595.20	5,886.40	6,177.60	6,489.60	6,801.60	7,155.20
3	88	94	5,449.60	5,740.80	6,011.20	6,323.20	6,635.20	6,968.00	7,321.60
4	95	101	5,616.00	5,886.40	6,177.60	6,489.60	6,822.40	7,155.20	7,508.80
5	102	109	5,782.40	6,052.80	6,364.80	6,676.80	7,009.60	7,363.20	7,737.60
6	110	118	5,948.80	6,240.00	6,552.00	6,884.80	7,217.60	7,592.00	7,966.40
7	119	127	6,136.00	6,448.00	6,760.00	7,092.80	7,446.40	7,820.80	8,216.00
8	128	137	6,344.00	6,656.00	6,988.80	7,342.40	7,716.80	8,091.20	8,507.20
9	138	147	6,552.00	6,884.80	7,217.60	7,592.00	7,966.40	8,361.60	8,777.60
10	148	159	6,780.80	7,134.40	7,488.00	7,862.40	8,257.60	8,652.80	9,089.60
11	160	171	7,030.40	7,384.00	7,758.40	8,153.60	8,548.80	8,956.00	9,422.40
12	172	184	7,300.80	7,654.40	8,028.80	8,444.80	8,860.80	9,297.60	9,776.00
13	185	198	7,592.00	7,966.40	8,361.60	8,777.60	9,214.40	9,672.00	10,171.20
14	199	214	7,904.00	8,299.20	8,715.20	9,152.00	9,609.60	10,088.00	10,587.20
15	215	230	8,236.80	8,652.80	9,089.60	9,547.20	10,025.60	10,524.80	11,044.80
16	231	248	8,590.40	9,027.20	9,484.80	9,963.20	10,462.40	10,982.40	11,523.20
17	249	267	8,985.60	9,422.40	9,900.80	10,400.00	10,920.00	11,460.80	12,022.40
18	268	288	9,401.60	9,859.20	10,358.40	10,878.40	11,419.20	12,001.60	12,604.80
19	289	310	9,859.20	10,358.40	10,878.40	11,419.20	11,980.80	12,584.00	13,208.00
20	311	334	10,337.60	10,857.60	11,398.40	11,980.80	12,584.00	13,208.00	13,873.60
21	335	360	10,857.60	11,419.20	11,980.80	12,584.00	13,208.00	13,873.60	14,560.00
22	361	388	11,440.00	12,022.40	12,604.80	13,249.60	13,915.20	14,601.60	15,329.60
23	389	418	12,043.20	12,646.40	13,291.20	13,956.80	14,643.20	15,392.00	16,161.60
24	419	450	12,708.80	13,332.80	13,998.40	14,705.60	15,454.40	16,224.00	17,035.20
25	451	484	13,395.20	14,060.80	14,768.00	15,516.80	16,286.40	17,097.60	17,950.40
26	485	522	13,915.20	14,622.40	15,350.40	16,120.00	16,931.20	17,763.20	18,657.60
27	523	562	14,456.00	15,184.00	15,932.80	16,723.20	17,576.00	18,449.60	19,364.80
28	563	605	14,913.60	15,662.40	16,432.00	17,264.00	18,116.80	19,032.00	19,988.80
29	606	652	15,537.60	16,328.00	17,139.20	17,992.00	18,886.40	19,843.20	20,820.80
30	653	702	16,182.40	16,993.60	17,825.60	18,720.00	19,656.00	20,654.40	21,673.60
31	703	757	16,848.00	17,680.00	18,574.40	19,489.60	20,467.20	21,486.40	22,568.00
32	758	815	17,576.00	18,449.60	19,364.80	20,342.40	21,361.60	22,422.40	23,545.60
33	816	878	18,345.60	19,260.80	20,217.60	21,236.80	22,297.60	23,400.00	24,564.80
34	879	945	19,156.80	20,134.40	21,132.80	22,193.60	23,296.00	24,460.80	25,688.00
35	946	1018	20,051.20	21,070.40	22,110.40	23,233.60	24,377.60	25,604.80	26,894.40
36	1019	1097	21,028.80	22,089.60	23,192.00	24,356.80	25,563.20	26,852.80	28,184.00
37	1098	1181	22,089.60	23,192.00	24,336.00	25,563.20	26,832.00	28,184.00	29,598.40
38	1182	1272	23,192.00	24,356.80	25,563.20	26,852.80	28,184.00	29,598.40	31,075.20
39	1273	1370	24,419.20	25,646.40	26,915.20	28,267.20	29,681.60	31,158.40	32,718.40
40	1371	1476	25,771.20	27,060.80	28,412.80	29,827.20	31,324.80	32,884.80	34,528.00
41	1477	1590	27,123.20	28,475.20	29,889.60	31,387.20	32,947.20	34,611.20	36,337.60

Any position requiring a licensed physician shall be assigned to the appropriate grade in the following schedule:

SCHEDULE Ia  
(Physicians)

Grade	Point	Range	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
50	606	652	19,864.00	20,862.40	21,902.40	23,004.80	24,148.80	25,355.20	26,624.00
51	653	702	20,488.00	21,528.00	22,588.80	23,732.80	24,918.40	24,166.40	27,476.80
52	703	757	21,153.60	22,214.40	23,337.60	24,502.40	25,729.60	26,998.40	28,350.40
53	758	815	21,881.60	22,984.00	24,128.00	25,334.40	26,603.20	27,934.40	29,328.00
54	816	878	22,651.20	23,795.20	24,980.80	26,228.80	27,539.20	28,912.00	30,368.00
55	879	945	23,504.00	24,668.80	25,896.00	27,206.40	28,558.40	29,993.60	31,491.20
56	946	1018	24,377.60	25,604.80	26,873.60	28,225.60	29,640.00	31,116.80	32,676.80
57	1019	1097	25,355.20	26,624.00	27,955.20	29,348.80	30,825.60	32,364.80	33,966.40
58	1098	1181	26,395.20	27,726.40	29,099.20	30,555.20	32,094.40	33,696.00	35,380.80
59	1182	1272	27,518.40	28,891.20	30,326.40	31,844.80	33,446.40	35,110.40	36,857.60
60	1273	1370	28,724.80	30,160.00	31,678.40	33,259.20	34,923.20	36,670.40	38,500.80
61	1371	1476	30,076.80	31,574.40	33,155.20	34,819.20	36,566.40	38,396.80	40,310.40
62	1477	1590	31,428.80	33,009.60	34,652.80	36,379.20	38,209.60	40,123.20	42,120.00

The annual salary figures in Schedules I and Ia above shall be converted to hourly rates by dividing by 2080 and converted to weekly rates by dividing by 52.

**Sec. 4. Appeal period allowance.** Each full-time permanent and limited period employee, both classified and unclassified, shall receive a payment of \$40 for each of the months of July, August, September and October of 1976. Such payments shall be made to eligible employees who were employed in calendar year 1975 and still employed during the month for which each such payment is made. Such payment shall not be considered annual earnable compensation for retirement purposes.

**Sec. 5. Transitional Allowance.** Each permanent full-time and limited period full-time classified employee shall receive an allowance equal to the difference between the annualized increase provided by the implementation of the schedule in section 3 of this Part and \$572. This allowance shall be paid in 2 approximately equal payments in December 1976 and February 1977 to eligible employees who were in the employ of the State in 1975 and still employed by the State in the same classification at the time of each payment. Allowance of \$50 or less may be paid in full in December 1976. The transitional allowance shall not be considered annual earnable compensation for retirement purposes.

**Sec. 6. Temporary Compensation Review Board.** There is hereby established a Temporary Compensation Review Board which, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear appeals from employees, their designated representatives and from state appointed authorities concerning the allocation of classifications and unclassified employees to pay grades provided in section 3 of this Part as recommended by the study. All appeals shall be submitted to the board prior to July 15, 1976. The board shall be constituted prior to July 1, 1976. The decision of the board on any appeal concerning the assignment of any position or classification to a salary range shall be final and binding on the parties, except as hereinafter provided. The board shall ensure that the current job specification or position description is correct and that the job has been properly evaluated by use of the Hay Guide Chart Job Profile Evaluation Method, together with job en-



vironment factors considered in relationship to all other jobs in State Government. This board may receive assistance from the staff of the Personnel Department, through the director, and the Office of State Employee Relations, through the director, for factual analysis of each appeal. Nonstandard work week factors shall be considered by the Personnel Board. Any decision by the board shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to reconsideration for a period of one year. Following completion of the board's review of all appeals, subsequent appeals will be processed pursuant to existing Personnel Law and rules.

The Temporary Compensation Review Board shall consist of 5 members. The Governor shall appoint 2 of such members from a list of 5 persons presented by the governing boards of those organizations which represent at least 500 state employees. Two members shall be appointed by the Governor to represent state management or the general public. The 5th member shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of at least 5 persons from among the general public and compiled by mutual agreement of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Available funds may be used as necessary to provide a reasonable per diem and expenses for public members.

The Temporary Compensation Review Board shall make every attempt to complete the review of and provide decisions on all appeals prior to the first day of November 1976. In the event that any appeals may remain undecided on November 1, 1976 the board shall complete those appeals as expeditiously as possible. Any appeals decided after November 1, 1976 shall include payments to the affected employees retroactive to the first pay period in November 1976.

**Sec. 7. Incentive rewards.** Notwithstanding the salary limits established in Title 2, section 6, the present salaries of individuals under Title 2, section 6, shall be increased by 5%. The same merit system and restrictions provided herein for classified state employees shall be applied to the base salary as established above.

**Sec. 8. 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. 9. Survivors' and retirees' benefits.** It is the intent of the Legislature that the salary increases provided for in this Act shall be considered a general salary increase the equivalent of 6.4% pursuant to Title 5, section 1124 and Title 5, section 1128.

**Sec. 10. Classifications Appeals Fund.** There is established a Classification Appeals Fund to provide all departments, regardless of the source of funds, with an emergency reserve to assure that adequate funding is available for additional costs of classification appeals. The State Budget Officer shall evaluate the financial impact of the decisions of the Temporary Com-

compensation Review Board as soon as their work is complete, but not later than December 31, 1976, and authorize such transfers to the various departments as may be necessary if sufficient funds are not available from regular departmental sources. Any unused balance of the fund shall lapse to the General Fund January 31, 1977.

**Sec. 11. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$500,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, to the Department of Finance and Administration, Bureau of the Budget, for the establishment of the Classification Appeals Fund. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Branch to ensure that sufficient funds are available to implement any additional costs of classification appeals. If the appropriation in this section is insufficient for purposes of implementing classification appeals, the Executive Department shall make such funds available through cost savings or other means and, if necessary, it shall submit a supplemental appropriation request to the regular session of the 108th Legislature to successfully complete implementation of classification appeals.

**Sec. 12. Obligation to negotiate.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of law the provisions of this Act shall not in any way be deemed to affect or impair the obligation of the State to negotiate with state employees or their representatives with respect to wages, hours and working conditions.

**Sec. 13. Effective date of compensation plan.** The compensation provisions of Part D of this Act, sections 1, 2, 3, 7 and 9, shall become effective with the first pay period in November 1976.

**PART E**

5 MRSA § 16 is enacted to read:

**§ 16. Vacation and sick leave accumulation**

1. **Vacation time.** Classified and unclassified state employees shall be permitted to accumulate at least the vacation time listed under the following schedule:

Longevity of employee	Rate of accumulation
0-5 years	1 day per month of employment
6-10 years	1¼ days per month of employment
11-15 years	1½ days per month of employment
16-20 years	1¾ days per month of employment
20 years or more	2 days per month of employment

Classified and unclassified employees accumulating vacation time under this subsection shall be permitted to accumulate at least the number of vacation days set out under the following schedule:

Longevity of employee	Number of Accumulated Days Permitted at Any One Time
1-14 years	24 days
15 years of more	30 days

2. Sick leave. Classified and unclassified employees shall earn at least one day of sick leave per month of employment and shall be permitted to accumulate days of sick leave up to at least 90 days at any one time.

3. Regulations. The State Board of Personnel shall, acting under section 592, prescribe or amend rules and regulations to assure that state personnel policy conforms to the minimums set out in this section. The minimum limits contained in this section shall not be construed to be maximum limits, and the State Personnel Board may prescribe or amend rules and regulations permitting accumulation of vacation leave and sick leave beyond the limits set forth here for limited categories of state employees for state employees in special situations, or for all classified or unclassified state employees.

#### PART F

Resolves, 1961, c. 35, next to last ¶ is amended to read:

Director of Public Improvements; authorized to grant certain easements. Resolved: That the Director of Public Improvements, with the approval of the Governor and Council, is authorized to grant to the Augusta Sewerage District and other public utilities such easements as may be mutually agreed upon, on terms that may be mutually agreed upon, covering the location of underground pipelines and mains for the purpose of conveying sewage and storm water and other public utilities across, through and under certain land of the State in Augusta.

#### PART G

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA Pt. 17, c. 371, is enacted to read:

#### PART 17

#### STATUS OF WOMEN

#### CHAPTER 371

#### MAINE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

##### § 7021. Commission established

In order to promote, carry out and coordinate programs designed to improve opportunities for women in the State, there is established an independent commission to be known as the Maine Commission for Women, hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the "commission."

##### § 7022. Membership

The commission shall consist of 17 members, including 9 appointed by the Governor, 4 appointed by the President of the Senate and 4 appointed by the Speaker of the House. In making these appointments to the commission, the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall consider and appoint residents of the State who have a knowledge of problems facing Maine women and who provide leadership in programs or activities which are carried out to improve opportunities for women. The members of the commission, chosen from throughout the State, shall include but not be limited to representatives of minority, low income, youth and elderly groups.

**§ 7023. Term of office**

Members shall be appointed for 2-year terms, except of those members first appointed, 5 appointed by the Governor, 2 appointed by the President of the Senate and 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House shall be appointed for 2-year terms, and the remainder shall be appointed for one-year terms. The term of office of each member shall be designated at the time of appointment.

Members may serve after the expiration of their terms until their successors have taken office. The Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House may terminate the membership of their respective appointees for good and just cause and the reason for the termination shall be communicated in writing to each member whose term is so terminated. The appointment of any member of the commission shall be terminated if the member is absent from 3 consecutive meetings without communicating good and just cause to the chairman.

**§ 7024. Vacancies**

Members appointed to fill vacancies occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which their predecessor was appointed shall serve only for the remainder of that term and shall be appointed by the same person who appointed their predecessor. Any vacancy on the commission shall not affect its powers.

**§ 7025. Chairperson**

The Governor shall select from among the members a chairperson and a vice-chairperson both of whom shall serve for one year. These selections shall be made each year prior to the first meeting of the commission. The chairperson is authorized to appoint subcommittees.

**§ 7026. Powers and duties**

The commission shall have the powers and duties to advise and consult with the Governor and Legislature about and to assist them in improving opportunities for Maine women by:

1. Research. Carrying out research programs which are necessary to determine the status of Maine women;
2. Activities. Promoting and coordinating activities on state and local levels designed to meet the problems of women;
3. Advocate. Serving as an advocate for Maine women by making recommendations on proposed budgetary, legislative and policy actions to the Governor, Legislature and to other officials of State and Federal Government with respect to state and federal policies, programs and other activities affecting or relating to the women of Maine;
4. Information. Informing the public about the presence or absence of opportunities for Maine women;
5. Meetings. Conducting public hearings, conferences, workshops and other such meetings to obtain information about, discuss and publicize the needs of and solutions to problems of women; and

6. Reports. Making a biennial report to the Governor and Legislature concerning the work and interests of the commission.

§ 7027. Meetings; compensation

The commission shall meet at the call of the chairman and not less than 4 times during each year. Members shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in the work of the commission at the same rate as state employees.

§ 7028. Staff; funding

The commission is authorized to employ staff and consultants, and to accept and use any funding available to it in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 1, first ¶, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 793, § 1, is amended to read:

It shall also include the Committee on Children and Youth, ~~the Governor's Advisory Council on the Status of Women~~ the Maine Committee on Aging and the Maine Human Services Council.

## PART H

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA § 173, sub-§ 3, ¶ A, 3rd through 7th ¶¶ as enacted by PL 1971, c. 480, § 1, are repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

The Legislature, state administrative departments, bureaus, agencies and commissions, and the Judicial Department, shall be sold or furnished copies necessary for legislative, administrative or judicial purposes under rules and regulations promulgated by the State Law Librarian.

Copies shall be sent, on an exchange basis, to the Library of Congress, secretary of the Maine State Bar Association, the Supreme Court Library of Canada and to each state or territorial library in the United States.

One copy of the laws passed by each session of the Legislature shall be given to each Member thereof, the Secretary of the Senate, the Assistant Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House and the Assistant Clerk of the House.

At any time prior to January 3, 1979, one copy of the latest unannotated revision of the statutes and any available supplement thereto shall be given to each Member of the Legislature who has not previously received such a copy as a Member of the Legislature which enacted the revision or a Legislature which met in regular session after the effective date of such revision of statutes.

On or after January 3, 1979, each Member of the Legislature may, while holding office, purchase at the state price or obtain on loan under rules and regulations promulgated by the State Law Librarian, the latest annotated revision of the statutes and the current supplement thereto.

The remaining copies of the revisions of the statutes, and supplements thereto, and the session laws shall be held in the library for exchange or library use, except as otherwise provided by law.

**Sec. 2. Supplements.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Title 3, section 164, subsection 8, no pocket parts shall be caused to be published for volumes of the unannotated Revised Statutes, or any replacements or recompiled volumes thereof, following final adjournment of the 107th Legislature.

#### PART I

PL 1975, c. 770, § 24 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**Sec. 24. Effective date.** Section 23 of this Act shall apply to all retirement allowances that are first payable on or after July 1, 1976; except that any part of a retirement allowance based on creditable service and earnable compensation paid prior to July 1, 1976, that would be higher if determined, on a pro rata basis, under the provisions of chapter 101 in effect immediately prior to July 1, 1976, shall be so determined. PL 1975, chapter 622, section 41 shall not be applied in any manner in determining benefits under the provisions of chapter 101 in effect immediately prior to July 1, 1976.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved, except as otherwise indicated.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act incorporate the provisions of the special appropriations bill, Legislative Document 2355, and contains the following specific changes relating to state employees pay and classification:

Section 9 of the preamble has been amended to ensure that merit increases will be equitably proportioned among the various pay ranges within each department. This section is also amended to ensure an equal opportunity for merit increases will be provided to all employees regardless of when they may become eligible within the fiscal year. Finally, the provision for implementing the 60% merit award system is postponed from July 1st to November 1, 1976.

Part D of this Act is amended by the addition of 3 new sections. Section 10 establishes a Classification Appeals Fund to provide all departments with an emergency reserve to ensure adequate funding is available for additional costs of classification appeals. Section 11 provides an appropriation from the General Fund in the amount of \$500,000 for classification appeals and ensures that any additional funds, if required, will be provided by the Executive Branch through cost savings or, if necessary, through a supplemental appropriation request. Section 12 ensures that the provisions of this Act shall not in any way affect or impair the obligation of the State to negotiate with state employees or their representatives with respect to wages, hours and working conditions.