# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

## Legislative Document

No. 691

H. P. 566 House of Representatives, March 2, 1977 Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and 2,000 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Laffin of Westbrook.

#### STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

#### AN ACT Increasing 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, the cost of living since April, 1974, has increased 20.8%; and

Whereas, collective bargaining pursuant to the recently enacted State Employees Labor Relations Act, Title 26, chapter 9-B, was delayed significantly by the change in Governors; and

Whereas, no bargaining pursuant to the State Employees Labor Relations Act is likely to ocur before the end of the legislative session in 1977; and

Whereas, the implementation of the "Hay Study" held the state employees to less than a 10% increase; and

Whereas, this is the only pay increase received by state employees since April of 1974; and

Whereas, it is important to adjust state employees' salaries to a level consistent with competitive salaries and the increased cost of living; and

Whereas, the following legislation is vitally necessary to prevent undue hardship on the state's invaluable 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. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$5,824,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978, and the sum of \$5,824,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1979, to effectuate, as of the first pay period in July of 1977, a pay adjustment for state employees of \$20 per week. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1977-78

1978-79

STATE EMPLOYEES' SALARIES

\$5,824,000

\$5,824,000

- Sec. 2. Unclassified employees subject to the Governor's determination. With respect to unclassified employees whose wage rates are subject to the Governor's determination, the Governor shall grant similar and equitable treatment.
- Sec. 3. Unclassified employees not subject to the Governor's determination. With respect to unclassified employees whose wage rates are not subject to determination by the Governor, 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 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 departments from other sources.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall become effective the first pay period in July, 1977.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.