

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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New Draft of: H. P. 1102, L. D. 1326

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1764

H. P. 1542

House of Representatives, May 9, 1977

Reported by Mr. Lougee from Committee on Veterans and Retirement and printed under Joint Rules No. 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Repeal Certain Laws Relating to Defense and Veterans Services.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 37 MRSA § 151, as amended by PL 1975, c. 293, § 4, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 37 MRSA § 152, as amended by PL 1967, c. 67, § 8, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 37 MRSA § 153, last sentence is amended to read:

Such expenses shall not exceed the sum of ~~\$250~~ \$400 in any case and the burial shall be in some cemetery not used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead.

Sec. 4. 37-A MRSA § 23, as enacted by PL 1971, c. 580, § 1, is amended to read:

§ 23. Pensions to soldiers, sailors or dependents

Any person who has served in the Army or Navy of the United States in the War of 1861, on the quota of Maine, and any person not on the quota of Maine, who has served in the Army or Navy of the United States in said war, and at time of making application for pension shall have been a resident of the State at least 5 years; any person who has served in the Army or Navy of the United States in the War with Spain, on the quota of Maine, and any person whether or not on the quota of Maine, who has served in the Army or Navy of the United States in the War with Spain or the Philippine Insurrection at any time prior to the 4th day of July, 1902, and at time of making application for pension shall have been a resident of the State at least 5 years, and who is unable from his own resources and the United States pension if any, to obtain

a livelihood for himself and those dependent upon him, shall be entitled to a pension from the State not exceeding ~~\$12~~ \$25 a month, provided he has been honorably discharged from said service. No such pension shall be paid by this State to persons residing in other states.

Sec. 5. 37-A MRSA § 24, as enacted by PL 1971, c. 580, § 1, is amended to read:

§ 24. Pensions to widows, orphans and relatives

The widow during her widowhood, or the son, daughter, parent or sister of any soldier or seaman deceased, who was dependent upon him at the time of his decease, is entitled to the same pension as is provided in section 23 and under similar conditions, provided not more than ~~\$12~~ \$25 a month shall be paid the dependents of any such soldier or seaman. Any son, daughter, parent or sister of any soldier or seaman deceased, who was receiving a pension on July 10, 1925, shall not be rendered ineligible by reason of anything herein contained.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Sections 1 and 2 of this bill repeal obsolete sections of the veterans laws dealing with paupers, settlements and poorhouses. The pauper statutes have been repealed and replaced and any such references remaining in the law are no longer applicable. Section 3 increases the maximum benefit payable to indigent veterans and their widows for burial expenses. Sections 4 and 5 increase the pensions paid to veterans and their eligible dependents of the Civil War, the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurrection.