

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 162

H. P. 142

House of Representatives, January 24, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and 1,800 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Birt of East Millinocket.

Cosponsors: Mr. Soulas of Bangor, Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield and Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT Relating to Arbitration under the State Employees Labor Relations Act.**

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

**26 MRSA § 979-D, sub-§ 4, ¶ D**, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 774, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**D. The determination by the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties, subject to submission of cost items to the Legislature pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph E, subparagraph (3).**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit determinations by an arbitrator with respect to issues over salaries, pensions and insurance to be binding on the executive and the employee bargaining agents in state employee collective bargaining. Under the State Employees Labor Relations Act such contract items, like other cost

items, are required to be submitted to the Legislature for approval. With the present advisory nature of arbitration of the issues, impasse between the executive and employee bargaining agents on these matters can forestall submission to the Legislature indefinitely. This bill would foster improved labor relations by providing a means for resolution of issues which the parties have been unable to resolve in order to permit timely submission of cost items to the Legislature.