

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 711

H. P. 565

House of Representatives, February 22, 1979

On Motion of Mr. Pearson of Old Town, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brenerman of Portland

Cosponsors: Mr. Hall of Sangerville, Mr. Gillis of Calais and Mr. Fenlason of Danforth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Increase the Salaries and Certain Expense Reimbursements of State Legislators.

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

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA § 2, 3rd ¶, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 750, § 1, is amended to read:

In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member shall be entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of \$12 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding ~~\$13~~ \$18 per day.

Sec. 2. 3 MRSA § 2, 3rd ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 750, § 1, is amended to read:

Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall receive a meal and housing allowance in the amount of ~~\$25~~ \$35 for each day in attendance at sessions of the Legislature and for each day he occupies overnight accommodations away from home either immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member shall be entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount

of ~~\$12~~ \$17 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding ~~\$13~~ \$18 per day. Each member shall also receive an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$200.

Sec. 3. 3 MRSA § 2, 5th ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 750, § 1, is amended to read:

In addition to the salary paid for the first and 2nd regular sessions of the Legislature, when a special session is called, the members of the Senate and House of Representatives shall each be paid ~~\$25~~ \$35 for every day's attendance, expenses and mileage as aforesaid.

Sec. 4. 3 MRSA § 2, 7th ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 750, § 1, is amended to read:

The member of the Penobscot Indian Tribe and the member of the Passamaquoddy Indian Tribe elected to represent his tribe at the Legislature shall receive a compensation of ~~\$25~~ \$35 for each day's attendance during the first and 2nd regular sessions and allowance for meals, housing and travel expenses as any other member of the Senate and House of Representatives for attendance at each legislative session. For the duration of any special session of the Legislature, they shall receive the same allowances, including housing, meal and constituent service allowances, as any other member of the Senate; and House of Representatives.

Sec. 5. 3 MRSA § 2, 9th ¶, last sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 750, § 1, is amended to read:

In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member shall be entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of \$12 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding ~~\$13~~ \$18 per day.

Sec. 6. 3 MRSA § 2, 9th ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 750, § 1, is amended to read:

The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the floor leaders and their assistants and members of a committee, with the approval of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House as to members of a committee, may also meet on days when the Legislature is not in daily session at any convenient location within the State. Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall receive \$25 for every day's attendance when meetings or daily sessions are held, a meal and housing allowance in the amount of ~~\$25~~ \$35 for each day in attendance at such meetings or daily sessions and for each day he occupies overnight accommodations away from home either immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature and actual daily mileage allowances which shall be paid at the same rate paid to state employees. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each Member shall be entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$12~~ \$17 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding ~~\$13~~ \$18 per day.

Sec. 7. Effective date. Sections 1 and 5 of this Act shall be repealed and sections 2, 3, 4 and 6 of this Act shall take effect on the first day of the 110th Legislature.

Sec. 8. Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1979-80	1980-81
LEGISLATURE		
All Other	\$ 3,750	\$186,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to increase the expense allowances for Legislators, in 2 steps.

The first step increases the maximum daily mileage allowance from \$13 to \$18 per day, effective this year. The Constitution forbids a Legislature from raising its own compensation, but does permit it to raise travel allowance.

The 2nd step increases the daily meal allowance from \$12 to \$17 and the meal and housing allowance in lieu of the separate mileage and meal allowance from \$25 to \$35. This will take effect with the 110th Legislature, consistent with the constitutional provisions.