

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

NO. 2385

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H.P. 1739 House of Representatives, March 1, 1988  
Reported by Representative BOST for the Special  
Commission to Study Teacher Training in the University of  
Maine System pursuant to Resolve 1985, chapter 52.  
Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and  
printing ordered under Joint Rule 18.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

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1 AN ACT to Implement the  
2 Recommendations of the Special Commission to  
3 Study Teacher Training in the University of  
4 Maine System.  
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6 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
7 follows:

8 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13405 is enacted to read:

1 §13405. Legislative review of teacher salaries

2 Beginning in 1988, the joint standing committee of  
3 the Legislature having jurisdiction over education  
4 shall conduct a biennial review of teacher  
5 compensation, including the minimum starting salary  
6 level for new teachers. Among the factors which the  
7 committee shall consider in its review is the national  
8 ranking of the State with respect to teacher salaries  
9 as compared to the ranking of the State for per capita  
10 income and other appropriate comparisons. The joint  
11 standing committee shall submit its findings and  
12 recommendations to the full Legislature by February  
13 1st in each odd-numbered year.

14 Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13604, as enacted by PL  
15 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is repealed and the following  
16 enacted in its place:

17 §13604. Sabbatical leave; paid leaves of absence for  
18 professional development; grants for  
19 professional development

20 1. Sabbatical leave; program established. The  
21 Legislature finds that sabbatical leave is a valuable  
22 educational management tool which increases the  
23 efficiency of the public schools by permitting  
24 teachers, principals and other professional school  
25 employees to pursue a further course of study, travel  
26 or work. These activities result in educational  
27 personnel who are better qualified by educational  
28 attainment and cultural experience for the positions  
29 they hold in the school.

30 A. There is established the Sabbatical Leave for  
31 Professional Development Program to be  
32 administered by the department. Up to 10 full  
33 school year leaves may be awarded annually to  
34 public school teachers, principals or other  
35 professional school employees who have been  
36 employed in that capacity for 7 years or more in  
37 the State. The leaves shall be at full pay and  
38 funded by the State. The purpose of the  
39 sabbatical leaves is to pursue advanced study,

1 travel, work or other activities which are related  
2 to professional development. Sabbatical leaves  
3 shall be awarded on a competitive basis in  
4 accordance with an application, review and  
5 decision-making process adopted by rule. The  
6 decision of the commissioner shall be final.

7 B. School boards may grant to any teacher,  
8 principal or other person regularly employed by  
9 them a leave of absence for a period not exceeding  
10 one year and for not more than 1/2 pay. A leave  
11 of absence may be granted only after the  
12 completion of 7 years of service and under  
13 conditions and rules determined by the school  
14 board.

15 C. A leave of absence granted in accordance with  
16 this subsection shall be conditional upon  
17 agreement by the teacher to return to teaching in  
18 Maine for at least 2 years.

19 2. Grants for professional development  
20 activities. There is established the Grants for  
21 Professional Development Program to be administered by  
22 the University of Maine System. Grants shall be  
23 awarded, within funds available for those purposes, to  
24 public school teachers for the pursuit of advanced  
25 study, in-service training programs or other  
26 professional development activities during the summer.

27 Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §15603, sub-§20-A is enacted  
28 to read:

29 20-A. Sabbatical leave costs. "Sabbatical leave  
30 costs" for subsidy purposes means the costs incurred  
31 by school administrative units for salary  
32 reimbursement during leaves of absence granted in  
33 accordance with section 13604, subsection 1, paragraph  
34 B.

35 Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §15604, sub-§1, ¶¶I and J, as  
36 amended by PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. G, §§2 and 4, are  
37 further amended to read:

1 I. Cost of state expenditures for teachers'  
2 retirement benefits; and

3 J. Early childhood educational programs; and

4 Sec. 5. 20-A MRSA §15604, sub-§1, ¶K is enacted  
5 to read:

6 K. Sabbatical leave costs.

7 Sec. 6. 20-A MRSA §15605, sub-§2, ¶C, as  
8 enacted by PL 1983, c. 859, Pt. G, §§2 and 4, is  
9 amended to read:

10 C. The requested funding levels for program costs  
11 under section 15604, subsection 1, paragraph B;  
12 section 15604, subsection 1, paragraph C,  
13 subparagraph (1); section 15604, subsection 1,  
14 paragraphs D, E and J and K, shall be the  
15 actual local program costs for the base year  
16 adjusted to the equivalent of the year prior to  
17 the year of allocation; and under section 15604,  
18 subsection 1, paragraph F, for the year prior to  
19 the year of allocation.

20 Sec. 6. Appropriation. The following funds are  
21 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the  
22 purposes of this Act.

23 1988-89

24 UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM  
25 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

26 Educational and General Activities  
27 - University of Maine System

28 All Other \$200,000

29 Provides funds for  
30 expansion of  
31 Professional  
32 Development Centers at  
33 Farmington, Fort Kent,  
34 Machias, Orono,

1 Portland-Gorham and  
2 Presque Isle campuses  
3 to provide  
4 comprehensive  
5 preservice and  
6 in-service teacher  
7 education services.  
8 Funds are contingent  
9 upon the establishment  
10 of a governing board  
11 for each center which  
12 provides for ongoing,  
13 meaningful input from  
14 teachers and  
15 university faculty.

16 Educational and General Activities -  
17 University of Maine System

18 All Other 100,000

19 Provides funds to  
20 establish and evaluate  
21 innovative pilot  
22 programs in teacher  
23 education on one or  
24 more campuses for  
25 possible future  
26 system-wide  
27 application. The  
28 funds are to be  
29 awarded for 2-year  
30 projects on a  
31 competitive basis and  
32 divided  
33 proportionately  
34 between campuses.  
35 Decisions on grant  
36 awards on each campus  
37 are to be made by the  
38 Board of Directors of  
39 the Professional  
40 Development Center.

1	Educational and General Activities -	
2	University of Maine System	
3	All Other	155,000
4	Provides funds for	
5	summer training grants	
6	for teachers,	
7	additional special	
8	education courses for	
9	training teachers and	
10	the conduct of supply	
11	and demand research	
12	recommended by the	
13	Special Commission to	
14	Study Teacher Training	
15	in the University of	
16	Maine System.	
17	Educational and General Activities -	
18	University of Maine System	
19	All Other	250,000
20	Provides funds to	
21	reimburse cooperating	
22	and supervising	
23	teachers at the rate	
24	of \$500 per semester	
25	for supervision of	
26	student teachers.	
27	Educational and General Activities -	
28	University of Maine System	
29	All Other	250,000
30	Provides funds for the	
31	establishment of a	
32	Teacher Education	
33	Research Center.	
34	BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE	
35	UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM	
36	TOTAL	
37		<u>\$955,000</u>
38	<u>LEGISLATURE</u>	

1	Legislature	
2	Personal Services	\$ 7,500
3	All Other	7,500
4	LEGISLATURE	
5	TOTAL	<u>\$15,000</u>
6	Provides funds for	
7	study of teacher	
8	salaries and teacher	
9	preparation time by	
10	the Joint Standing	
11	Committee on Education.	
12	<u>EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES,</u>	
13	<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>	
14	Division of Higher Education	
15	Services	
16	All Other	\$ 810,000
17	Provides funds to	
18	expand the Blaine	
19	House Scholars to	
20	provide paid leave and	
21	tuition for teachers	
22	studying toward a	
23	graduate degree.	
24	Division of Higher Education	
25	Services	
26	All Other	220,000
27	Provides funds for the	
28	Sabbatical Leave for	
29	Professional	
30	Development Program	
31	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND	
32	CULTURAL SERVICES	
33	TOTAL	<u>\$1,030,000</u>



1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 This bill implements the legislative aspects of  
3 the recommendations of the Special Commission to Study  
4 Teacher Training in the University of Maine System.  
5 Section 1 establishes a biennial review of teacher  
6 salaries by the Joint Standing Committee on  
7 Education. Section 2 expands existing law regarding  
8 sabbatical leaves for educators and establishes a  
9 program of summer grants to allow teachers to pursue  
10 professional development activities. Up to 10 state  
11 funded one-year sabbaticals would be awarded to  
12 professional educators on a competitive basis. In  
13 addition, school units are encouraged to offer up to  
14 one-year sabbatical leaves at 1/2 pay on their own.  
15 Sections 3 through 6 encourage school units to offer  
16 sabbaticals to their teachers by making the salary  
17 paid to a teacher on leave an allowable program cost  
18 under the School Finance Act. Section 7 appropriates  
19 funds to implement various recommendations of the  
20 commission.

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