

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 1367

S.P. 493

In Senate, April 26, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CLARK of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator PERKINS of Hancock, Representative CARROLL of Gray and Representative LISNIK of Presque Isle.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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An Act to Equalize State Retiree Health Benefits.

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

3 **5 MRSA 285, sub-§9 is enacted to read:**

5 9. Supplemental coverage; Medicare eligible retirees. For  
7 those retirees who are otherwise eligible for coverage under this  
9 section, but are also Medicare eligible, the Maine State  
11 Retirement System shall pay 100% of only the retirees' share of  
13 the premiums for Medicare Part B and a supplemental group policy  
15 which has the effect of making the deductibles and coverages for  
17 Medicare eligible retirees equal to those provided non-Medicare  
19 eligible retirees under this section.

17 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

19 State retirees who meet statutory criteria have been covered  
21 under the state health insurance plan for many years. An  
23 increasing number have been required to enroll under Medicare in  
25 recent years. This has resulted in less coverage for these  
27 retirees because the Medicare plan has greater out-of-pocket  
expenses. This bill requires the State to maintain its original  
commitment to all retirees by paying Medicare premiums and  
providing supplemental insurance to equalize Medicare benefits  
with the state plan.