

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1735

S.P. 643

In Senate, June 12, 1989

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

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 Representative RYDELL of Brunswick, Representative PRIEST of Brunswick and Representative FOSS of Yarmouth.

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### STATE OF MAINE

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

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An Act to Amend the Teacher Retirement System Laws to Allow Contributions for Associates in Education.

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(EMERGENCY)  
(After Deadline)



1           **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
3 as emergencies; and

5           Whereas, it is necessary to encourage the development of  
programs to increase the preparation of college students who are  
7 completing programs leading to certification as teachers in the  
State; and

9           Whereas, under current law, teachers on leave who  
11 participate in college level teacher preparation programs must  
sacrifice a one-year contribution towards their retirement; and

13           Whereas, some teachers will be participating in those  
15 teacher preparation courses during the school year beginning  
September 1989; and

17           Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
19 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
21 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore,

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

25           **5 MRSA §17001, sub-§42, as amended by PL 1985, c. 808, §§1**  
27 **and 2, is further amended to read:**

29           **42. Teacher.** "Teacher" means a preschool teacher, teacher,  
superintendent, principal, supervisor, school nurse, school  
31 dietician or school secretary employed in any public school,  
including teachers in unorganized territory. "Teacher" also  
33 means a public school teacher who is on a one-year leave of  
absence from the teacher's school district, and is participating  
35 in the education of prospective teachers by teaching and  
supervising students enrolled in college level teacher  
37 preparation programs in this State.

39           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

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### STATEMENT OF FACT

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7 Under current law, teachers who take a one-year leave of  
absence from their school districts to participate in the  
9 education of prospective teachers lose a one-year contribution  
towards their retirement. This bill expands the definition of  
"teacher," in order to ensure that public school teachers on  
11 leave from their school districts who participate in such college  
level teacher preparation programs retain all of the retirement  
13 benefits enjoyed by public school teachers.