

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 29

H.P. 26

House of Representatives, January 12, 1993

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

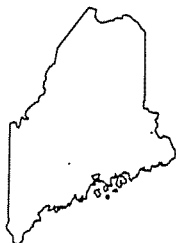
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative TUFTS of Stockton Springs.
Cosponsored by Representative TRUE of Fryeburg.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-THREE

**An Act to Permit Retired Teachers to Rejoin the Teachers Health
Insurance Plan after Serving in the Legislature.**



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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13451, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Access to group plan; retired teachers who serve as Legislators. Any retired teacher eligible for group accident and sickness or health insurance under subsection 2 who becomes a member of the Legislature must be permitted to reenroll in the teachers' group plan within 90 days of the date the retired teacher ceases to be a Legislator. The retired teacher seeking to reenroll must show that continuous insurance coverage was maintained from at least one year immediately prior to retirement from the school district to within 90 days of the date of reenrollment.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Retired teachers who become Legislators are at risk of losing any state contribution to their health insurance if they serve as Legislators for less than 5 years. The State pays 25% of a retired teacher's share of the health insurance premium. The State pays the full cost for the Legislator's coverage and 50% of the cost for dependents. Under Public Law 1991, chapter 527, the State may not contribute to the cost of health insurance for retirees hired after July 1, 1991 unless the retiree participated in the health insurance plan for 5 years prior to retirement. If a retired teacher covered by the health insurance plan available to teachers drops that plan in order to obtain the coverage provided to Legislators, the retired teacher is not currently permitted to reenroll in the teachers' plan at a later date. This bill requires that the retired teacher who serves as a Legislator be allowed to rejoin the teachers' insurance plan if that person had maintained continuous insurance coverage to within 90 days of the date of reenrollment.