

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 84

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H.P. 59

House of Representatives, January 9, 1997

**An Act to Reduce the Meal Allowance for Legislators from \$32 to \$16.**

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative JONES of Pittsfield.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, BUCK of Yarmouth, MADORE of Augusta, STEDMAN of Hartland, TREADWELL of Carmel, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §2, 3rd and 10th ¶¶**, as amended by PL 1989, c.  
5 878, Pt. D, §§14 and 15, are further amended to read:

6 Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives shall  
7 be ~~is~~ entitled to a meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$16 and a  
8 housing allowance in the amount of \$38 for each day in attendance  
9 at sessions of the Legislature and for each day the member  
10 occupies overnight accommodations away from home either  
11 immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at  
12 daily sessions of the Legislature. In lieu of the meal and  
13 housing allowance, each member ~~shall-be~~ is entitled to a daily  
14 meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$16 and actual daily mileage  
15 allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding \$38 per day.  
16 Each member of the Senate ~~shall~~ also ~~receive~~ receives an annual  
17 allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$1,000, \$650  
18 of which ~~shall-be~~ is received at the start of each regular  
19 session and \$350 of which ~~shall-be~~ is received in the month  
20 following adjournment of the regular session. Each member of the  
21 House of Representatives ~~shall~~ also ~~receive~~ receives an annual  
22 allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$750, \$500 of  
23 which ~~shall-be~~ is received at the start of each regular session  
24 and \$250 of which ~~shall-be~~ is received in the month following  
25 adjournment of the regular session.

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27 The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
28 Representatives, the floor leaders and their assistants and  
29 members of a committee, with the approval of the President of the  
30 Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives as to  
31 members of a committee, may also meet on days when the  
32 Legislature is not in daily session at any convenient location  
33 within the State. Each member of the Senate and House of  
34 Representatives ~~shall--receive~~ receives \$55 for every day's  
35 attendance when meetings or daily sessions are held, a meal  
36 allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$16 and a housing allowance  
37 ~~whereby by which~~ actual lodging expenses will be reimbursed at  
38 the single-room rate, ~~provided-that if~~ a receipt is submitted to  
39 the Executive Director of the Legislative Council for each day in  
40 attendance at such meetings or daily sessions and for each day  
41 that member occupies overnight accommodations away from home  
42 either immediately preceding or immediately following attendance  
43 at daily sessions of the Legislature and actual daily mileage  
44 allowances which ~~shall-be~~ are paid at the same rate paid to state  
45 employees. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member  
46 ~~shall-be~~ is entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of  
47 ~~\$32~~ \$16 and actual daily mileage allowances.  
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## SUMMARY

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This bill reduces the meal allowance for Legislators from \$32 to \$16.