

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 534

H.P. 389

House of Representatives, January 28, 1997

An Act to Require Legislators to Pay a Portion of Their Health and Dental Insurance Premiums.

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 WATERHOUSE of Bridgton.
Cosponsored by Representative McELROY of Unity and
Senator LIBBY of York and
Representative BUCK of Yarmouth.

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

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3 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 368,
4 Pt. G, §2, is further amended to read:

6 **7. Payment by State.** Except as otherwise provided in this
7 subsection, the State, through the commission, shall pay 100% of
8 only the employee's share of this health plan, except for
9 Legislators, for whom the State shall pay ~~50% of the health plan~~
10 ~~premium for dependent coverage~~ 80% of the health plan premium for
11 personal coverage or the cash value of that benefit to the
12 Legislator, if the Legislator so chooses. For any dental
13 insurance plan covering Legislators, the State, through the
14 commission, shall pay 80% of a Legislator's personal coverage or
15 the cash value of that benefit to the Legislator, if the
16 Legislator so chooses. A Legislator shall pay the remaining
17 percentage of the health plan or dental insurance premium. For
18 any person appointed to a position after November 1, 1981, who is
19 employed less than full time, the State shall pay a share of the
20 employee's share reduced pro rata to reflect the reduced number
21 of work hours.

22
23 For persons who were first employed before July 1, 1991, the
24 State shall pay 100% of only the retiree's share of the premiums
25 for this health plan for persons who were previously eligible for
26 this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who
27 have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1,
28 paragraph G.

30 For persons who were first employed by the State after July 1,
31 1991, the State shall pay a pro rata share portion of only the
32 retiree's share of the premiums, as described in this section,
33 for this health plan for persons who were previously eligible for
34 this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who
35 have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1,
36 paragraph G based on the total number of years of participation
37 in the group health plan prior to retirement as follows:

38

39 Years of Participation	40 State Portion
41 10 or more years	42 100% group health plan 43 premium
44 9 but less than 10 years	45 90% group health plan 46 premium
47 8 but less than 9 years	48 80% group health plan 49 premium
50 7 but less than 8 years	51 70% group health plan 52 premium
53 6 but less than 7 years	54 60% group health plan 55 premium
56 5 but less than 6 years	57 50% group health plan 58 premium

Less than 5 years

No contribution

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SUMMARY

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This bill requires that Legislators covered under a group health insurance plan or dental insurance plan for Legislators contribute 20% of the insurance premium. The bill also gives Legislators the option of receiving the cash value of the insurance benefits in lieu of the state contribution.