

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1234

S.P. 375

In Senate, February 25, 1997

An Act to Reduce the Cost of State Government.

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs 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 NUTTING of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative KERR of Old Orchard Beach and
Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, MICHAUD of Penobscot, Representative: BERRY of
Livermore.

2
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §6, first ¶,** as repealed and replaced by PL
5 1981, c. 705, Pt. L, §§1-3, is amended to read:

6 Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Governor is
7 authorized to adjust the salaries of the following state
8 officials within the salary ranges indicated in this section.
9 The adjustment may be at the time of appointment of the official
10 and subsequently as provided by law. The salary ranges shall
11 must be as provided by law; except that, for the purposes of this
12 section, each salary range shall ~~be~~ is increased by 2 steps in
13 addition to and in the same manner of increase as the steps in
14 the range otherwise provided by law. No other state salary shall
15 may be paid to these officials. Any proposal to establish new
16 positions pursuant to this section must be approved in separate
17 legislation by a 2/3 vote of all members elected to each House of
18 the Legislature.

19 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §931, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

20 **3. New major policy-influencing positions.** Any proposal to
21 establish new positions pursuant to sections 932 to 952 must be
22 approved in separate legislation by a 2/3 vote of all members
23 elected to each House of the Legislature.

24 **Sec. 3. Appointed and major policy-influencing positions; position**
25 **eliminations.** State department and agencies, with the assistance
26 of the Bureau of Human Resources within the Department of
27 Administrative and Financial Services, shall develop a plan to
28 reduce the number of state officials appointed pursuant to the
29 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 2, section 6 and major
30 policy-influencing positions identified in Title 5, chapter 71 to
31 achieve General Fund savings equivalent to 10% of the total
32 General Fund cost of those positions. The Director of the Bureau
33 of Human Resources shall submit a report to the 118th Legislature
34 no later than November 15, 1997 detailing the positions to be
35 eliminated and including any legislation required to implement
36 the eliminations.

37 **Sec. 4. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
38 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

39 1998-99

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43 **ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL**
44 **SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Executive Branch Departments
and Agencies - Statewide**

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4

Personal Services

(\$500,000)

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SUMMARY

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This bill directs state departments and agencies to develop a plan to reduce the number of state appointive or policy-influencing positions in order to achieve General Fund savings and provides a statewide General Fund deappropriation of \$500,000 in fiscal year 1998-99.

The bill also requires that any legislation creating new appointive or major policy-influencing positions be separate legislation and receive a 2/3 vote of the Legislature.