

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1847

H.P. 1304

House of Representatives, April 30, 1997

**An Act to Modify the Retirement Laws for the 38th Training Troop of
the Maine State Police.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule
205.

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative McALEVEY of Waterboro.
Cosponsored by Senator CAREY of Kennebec and
Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, MAYO of Bath, PAUL of Sanford,
PINKHAM of Lamoine, WHEELER of Bridgewater.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17708, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1987, c. 739, §§20 and 48, is further amended to read:

6 **2. Before September 16, 1984.** A state police officer who was first employed by that department after July 9, 1943, but
8 before September ~~1~~ 16, 1984, shall contribute to the retirement system or have pick-up contributions made by the employer as
10 follows:

12 A. At a rate of 7.5% of earnable compensation until the state police officer has completed 20 years of creditable
14 service, as required under section 17851, subsection 4, paragraph A; and

16 B. After completing the service described in paragraph A, at a rate of 6.5% of earnable compensation for the remainder
18 of employment as a state police officer.

20 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §17708, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 801, §§5 and 7, is amended to read:

24 **3. After September 15, 1984.** A state police officer who was first employed by that department after ~~August-31~~ September 15,
26 1984, shall contribute to the retirement system as follows:

28 A. At a rate of 7.5% of earnable compensation until ~~he the~~ state police officer has completed 25 years of creditable
30 service, as required under section 17851, subsection 4, paragraph B; and

32 B. After completing the service described in paragraph A, at a rate of 6.5% of earnable compensation for the remainder
34 of ~~his~~ employment as a state police officer.

36 **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §17851, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 801, §§5 and 7, is amended to read:

40 **4. State police.** A state police officer qualifies for a service retirement benefit if ~~he~~ that state police officer:

42 A. Became a state police officer after July 9, 1943, but
44 before September ~~1~~ 16, 1984, and retires after completing 20 years of creditable service as a state police officer, which
46 may include creditable service under section 17760, subsection 1, but may not include creditable service under
48 section 17760, subsection 2; or

50 B. Became a state police officer after ~~August-31~~ September 15, 1984, and completed 25 years of creditable service as a
52 state police officer.

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SUMMARY

Under current law, state employees, including state police officers, hired after August 31, 1984 are eligible for retirement benefits upon the completion of 25 years of creditable service and attainment of the age of 55 years. State employees hired before September 1, 1984 are eligible for retirement benefits upon the completion of 20 years of creditable service, with no age restrictions.

This bill changes the cutoff date for eligibility of retirement benefits after 20 years of creditable service for state police officers to September 16, 1984. The purpose of this bill is to give members of the Maine State Police 38th Training Troop the same benefits that were available when applications were being accepted for that class. Members of the 38th Training Troop were well through the application process but were not officially hired until September 3, 1984, 2 days after the law imposing the new 25 years of service and 55 years of age requirement took effect.