

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 352

H.P. 248

House of Representatives, January 14, 1999

**An Act to Encourage Qualified Persons to Enter and Remain in Law  
Enforcement Administration.**

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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 McALEVEY of Waterboro.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, CHICK of Lebanon,  
LABRECQUE of Gorham, MAYO of Bath, McKENNEY of Cumberland, MURPHY of  
Berwick, STEDMAN of Hartland, WHEELER of Bridgewater.

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

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4        **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §373**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6        **§373. Salaries; benefits**

8        1. Annual salary. The sheriff for each county receives an  
10        annual salary of \$30,000 or an amount mutually agreed to by the  
sheriff and the county commissioners of that county.

12        2. Payments. The sheriff receives an annual salary from  
14        the county in weekly or biweekly payments on a date determined by  
the county and in a sum that, in a year aggregate, will most  
16        nearly equal the annual salary.

18        3. Additional sums. In addition to the annual salary under  
20        subsection 1, each sheriff receives the additional sums for which  
the sheriff qualifies under the following provisions:

22        A. Five hundred dollars for each 30 credit hours of  
24        post-secondary school education in the field of criminal  
justice, business or public administration that the sheriff  
successfully completes;

26        B. One hundred dollars for each 10,000 persons constituting  
28        the population of the county according to the latest Federal  
Decennial Census;

30        C. One hundred dollars for each full calendar year of  
32        full-time law enforcement or corrections experience  
34        completed subsequent to the completion of the basic  
municipal or county law enforcement training or the basic  
corrections school and prior to assuming the office of  
36        sheriff;

38        D. One thousand dollars for each consecutive full calendar  
year of prior service as sheriff; and

40        E. One thousand dollars for each jail in that county with a  
42        rated capacity of 25 or fewer inmates; one thousand five  
44        hundred dollars for each jail in that county with a rated  
capacity of 25 to 50 inmates; and two thousand dollars for  
each jail in that county with a rated capacity of more than  
46        50 inmates. The Department of Corrections determines a  
jail's inmate capacity.

48        4. Benefits. A sheriff may not receive fewer benefits than  
50        any other county employee receives, unless otherwise mutually  
52        agreed to by the sheriff and the county commissioners of that  
county.

2        5. Salary limitations. If the total of the sheriff's  
3        annual salary and benefits under subsections 1 and 3 is more than  
4        20% below that of the highest paid municipal police chief in a  
5        community of that county, the sheriff's salary must be increased  
6        to within 20% of the highest paid police chief in that county.  
7        If the total of the sheriff's annual salary and benefits under  
8        subsections 1 and 3 is more than 20% above that of the highest  
9        paid municipal police chief in a community of that county, the  
10       sheriff's salary must be decreased to within 20% of the highest  
11       paid police chief in that county.

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#### SUMMARY

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15        This bill establishes guidelines for salaries and benefits  
16        for all county sheriffs.