

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1444

S.P. 484

In Senate, February 23, 1999

**An Act to Require Legislators to Contribute to Health and Dental
Premiums.**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government 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 HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

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

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Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7, as repealed and replaced by PL 1997, c. 763, §1 and affected by §7, is amended to read:

7. Payment by State. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the State, through the commission, shall pay 100% of only the employee's share of the individual premium for the standard plan identified and offered by the commission and available to the employee as authorized by the commission, except for Legislators, for whom the State shall pay ~~50%~~ 90% of the Legislator health plan and dental plan premiums and 40% of the health plan premium for dependent coverage. For any person appointed to a position after November 1, 1981 who is employed less than full time, the State shall pay a share of the employee's share reduced pro rata to reflect the reduced number of work hours. The State may not pay any portion of the health plan premium for a blind person eligible for the group health plan under subsection 1, paragraph H.

For persons who were first employed before July 1, 1991, the State shall pay 100% of only the retiree's share of the premiums for the standard plan identified and offered by the commission and available to the retiree, as authorized by the commission for persons who were previously eligible for this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph G.

For persons who were first employed by the State after July 1, 1991, the State shall pay a pro rata share portion of only the retiree's share of the premiums for the standard plan identified and offered by the commission and available to the retiree, as authorized by the commission for persons who were previously eligible for this health plan pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph A and who have subsequently become eligible pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph G based on the total number of years of participation in the group health plan prior to retirement as follows:

Years of Participation	State Portion
10 or more years	100% group health plan premium
9 but less than 10 years	90% group health plan premium
8 but less than 9 years	80% group health plan premium

2	7 but less than 8 years	70% group health plan premium
4	6 but less than 7 years	60% group health plan premium
6	5 but less than 6 years	50% group health plan premium
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10	Less than 5 years	No contribution
12	Pursuant to Title 20-A, section 12722, subsection 5, this subsection applies to participants in the defined contribution plan offered by the Maine Technical College System Board of Trustees under Title 20-A, section 12722.	
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18 **SUMMARY**

20 Currently the State pays 100% of Legislators' health and
22 dental plan premiums and 50% of their dependents' health
24 insurance premiums. This bill requires Legislators to pay 10% of
their health and dental insurance and 60% of their dependents'
health insurance premiums.