

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1445

S.P. 485

In Senate, February 23, 1999

**An Act to Eliminate Health Insurance Benefits for Retired Legislators
Elected in or After 1992.**

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Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7, as repealed and replaced by PL 1997, c. 763, §1 and affected by §7, is amended to read: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% 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~~ Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, 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
14 subsection applies to participants in the defined contribution
16 plan offered by the Maine Technical College System Board of
18 Trustees under Title 20-A, section 12722. This paragraph does
not apply to Legislators first elected in 1992 or later, for whom
the State shall not pay any of the retiree's share of the
premiums.

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SUMMARY

24 This bill eliminates state-paid health insurance benefits
for retired Legislators who were first elected in 1992 or later.