

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**JUDICIARY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
120TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 81, L.D. 301, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission Regarding Retirement Benefits"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following:

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

	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>
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**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

**Courts - Supreme, Superior and District**

Personal Services	\$39,065	\$40,627
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Provides funds to support the additional costs associated with increasing the maximum benefit from 60% to 70% of average final compensation for judges appointed on or after December 1, 1984.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

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**FISCAL NOTE**

**2001-02**                      **2002-03**

**APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

General Fund                                      \$39,065                      \$40,627

Increasing the maximum service retirement benefit for all judicial service on or after December 1, 1984 would increase the unfunded liability of the Maine State Retirement System in the amount of \$580,000. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 18-A, unfunded liabilities may not be created except those that result from experience losses. The liability would generally be satisfied by a one-time General Fund appropriation representing the full actuarial value of the increase. As of June 30, 2000, assets in the Judicial Retirement System exceeded the plan's liabilities in an amount greater than the liability created by this plan change. That surplus will satisfy the liability but will increase the Judicial Department's employer contribution rate in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03 by .71% of the judicial payroll. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of the Budget projects the judicial payroll to be \$5,502,053 and \$5,722,116 in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03, respectively. Based on those amounts, this bill includes General Fund appropriations of \$39,065 and \$40,627 in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03, respectively, for the Judicial Department's additional payroll costs.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.