

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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m
R.S.

L.D. 1892

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DATE: 2-20-02

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 690, L.D. 1892, Bill, "An Act to Adjust the Salary of the Governor"

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Amend the amendment by striking out the substitute title and replacing it with the following:

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'An Act to Adjust the Salary and Benefits of the Governor and to Allow for the Self-adjustment of an Elected State Official's Salary'

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Further amend the amendment in the 2nd paragraph after the title in the last line (page 1, line 30 in amendment) by inserting after the following: "\$101,000" the following: 'The Governor may choose to receive a smaller amount for an annual salary'

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Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 2 the following:

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'Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §2, first ¶, as amended by PL 1999, c. 509, §1, is further amended to read:

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Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives, beginning with the first Wednesday of December 2000 and thereafter, is entitled to \$10,815 in the first year and \$7,725 in the 2nd year of each biennium, except that if a Legislator who is a recipient of retirement benefits from the federal Social Security Administration files a written request with the Executive Director of the Legislative Council within one week after the biennium commences, the Legislator is entitled to \$9,270 in each year of the biennium. Each member of the Senate

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HOUSE AMENDMENT

R.N.S.

2 and the House of Representatives must receive a cost-of-living
adjustment in annual legislative salary, except that the
4 percentage increase may not exceed 5% in any year. Beginning
December 1, 2001, the salary for each legislative session must be
6 adjusted each December 1st by the percentage change in the
Consumer Price Index for the most recently concluded fiscal
8 year. In addition, each Legislator is entitled to be paid for
travel at each legislative session once each week at the same
10 rate per mile to and from that Legislator's place of abode as
state employees receive, the mileage to be determined by the most
12 reasonable direct route, except that Legislators may be
reimbursed for tolls paid for travel on the Maine Turnpike as
14 long as they have a receipt for payment of the tolls, such tolls
to be reimbursed when Legislators use the Maine Turnpike in
16 traveling to and from sessions of the Legislature or in
performance of duly authorized committee assignments. Each
18 Legislator is entitled to mileage on the first day of the
session, and those amounts of salary and expenses at such times
20 as the Legislature may determine during the session, and the
balance at the end of the session. Each Legislator may choose to
receive a smaller amount for an annual salary.

22 **Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §282, sub-§7,** as amended by PL 2001, c. 333,
24 §2, is further amended to read:

26 **7. Value of fringe benefits.** To ensure that all
publications that state the salary of an employee or of a
28 position in State Government also include a statement of the
dollar value of the fringe benefit package provided. For
30 purposes of this subsection, "fringe benefits" includes an
employer's cost of an employee's health insurance, dental
32 insurance and retirement but does not include the amount paid to
cover any unfunded liability; and

34 **Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §282, sub-§8,** as enacted by PL 2001, c. 333,
36 §3, is amended to read:

38 **8. Serve as director of Clean Government Initiative.** To
serve as a director, along with the Commissioner of Environmental
40 Protection, of the Clean Government Initiative established in
Title 38, section 343-H+; and

42 **Sec. 6. 5 MRSA §282, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

44 **9. Elected official salary reduction report.** To report
46 annually to the Governor and the Legislature those elected
officials who have elected, pursuant to Title 2, section 1 or
48 Title 3, section 2, to choose a smaller salary and the amount of
each elected official's reduction. The commissioner also shall
50 make this information available to the public.'

R. S.

2 Further amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering
4 any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read
consecutively.

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FISCAL NOTE

10 Allowing an elected official to reject any portion of their
12 salary may result in General Fund savings in the future. It is
not known if any official will reject a portion of their salary.
Therefore, the amount of any savings can not be determined at
this time.

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The additional costs associated with certain reporting
responsibilities can be absorbed by the Department of
Administrative and Financial Services utilizing existing budgeted
resources.

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SUMMARY

24 This amendment allows an elected state official, either the
Governor or a Legislator, to opt to be paid a lower annual
26 salary. Each year, the Commissioner of Administrative and
Financial Services is required to report to the Governor and the
Legislature the names of those elected state officials who choose
28 this option and the salary amounts declined.

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