

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 1893

S.P. 691

In Senate, December 17, 2001

**An Act to Facilitate More Effective Consumer Representation at the
Office of the Public Advocate.**

Submitted by the Office of Public Advocate pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 17, 2001. Referred to the Committee
on Utilities and Energy and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela L. Cahill".

PAMELA L. CAHILL
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §1701, sub-§3**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1999, c. 259, §4, is amended to read:

6 **3. Salaries of certain employees.** The salaries of the following employees of the Public Advocate are within the following salary ranges:

10 A. Deputy Public Advocate, salary range 53;

12 B. Senior Counsel, salary range 36;

14 C. Economic Analyst, salary range 36;

16 D. Research Assistant, salary range 30;

18 E. Business Services Manager, salary range 26; and

20 F. Special Assistant to the Public Advocate, salary range 20.

22
24 The employees listed in this subsection serve at the pleasure of the Public Advocate and are confidential employees. All other employees of the Public Advocate are subject to the Civil Service Law.

28 The Public Advocate may, at the Public Advocate's discretion, substitute an Economic Analyst position at salary range 36 for any vacant Senior Counsel position. The Public Advocate also may compensate one or more Senior Counsels at salary range 37 if, in the judgment of the Public Advocate, an increase is necessary to provide competitive salary levels.

36 **SUMMARY**

38 This bill authorizes the Public Advocate at the Public Advocate's discretion to substitute an economic analyst position for a vacant senior counsel position. The bill also authorizes the Public Advocate to compensate a senior counsel at a higher salary range when the increase is necessary to provide competitive salary levels.