

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

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Legislative Document

No. 1941

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H.P. 1444

House of Representatives, December 20, 2001

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**An Act to Modify the Time of Constituent Service Allowance Payments.**

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 17, 2001. Referred to the Committee on State and Local Government pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative CLOUGH of Scarborough.

Cosponsored by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec and

Representatives: BOWLES of Sanford, COLWELL of Gardiner, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, LESSARD of Topsham, MAYO of Bath, McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth, MURPHY of Berwick, NORBERT of Portland.

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

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

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Except as provided in this section, each member of the Senate and House of Representatives is entitled to a meal allowance in the amount of \$32 and a housing allowance in the amount of \$38 for each day in attendance at sessions of the Legislature and for each day the member occupies overnight accommodations away from home either immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature. The presiding officers may establish reasonable policies regarding allowances for meals and overnight accommodations for the day immediately preceding the session, which may include policies regarding whether an allowance is paid, whether the full amount or a portion of the statutory allowance is paid and whether receipts are required. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member is entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of \$32 and actual daily mileage allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding \$38 per day. Each member of the Senate also receives an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$2,000, \$1,300 ~~at the start of each regular session~~ in January and \$700 in the month following adjournment of the regular session. Each member of the House of Representatives also receives an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$1,500, \$1,005 ~~at the start of each regular session~~ in January and \$495 in the month following adjournment of the regular session.

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**SUMMARY**

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This bill changes when Legislators receive the 1st installment payment of the annual allowance for constituent services. Current law provides that this installment be paid at the start of each regular session. This bill provides that this installment be paid in January.