

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 317

H.P. 241

House of Representatives, January 19, 2005

### An Act To Set the Base Legislative Salary at \$15,000 Per Year

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.  
Cosponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland and  
Representatives: DAIGLE of Arundel, DUDLEY of Portland, DUGAY of Cherryfield,  
DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, Speaker RICHARDSON of Brunswick,  
TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senator: GAGNON of Kennebec.

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

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**Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §2, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 20, Pt. F, §1, is further amended to read:

Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives, beginning with the first Wednesday of December 2000 2008 and thereafter, is entitled to ~~\$10,815~~ \$15,000 in the first year and ~~\$7,725~~ \$15,000 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 and the House of Representatives must receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative salary, except that the percentage increase may not exceed 5% in any year. Beginning December 1, ~~2001~~ 2009, the salary for each legislative session must be adjusted each December 1st by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the most recently concluded fiscal year; except that no member of the Senate or the House of Representatives may receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative salary for ~~the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature~~ ~~or~~ the First Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature. In addition, each Legislator is entitled to be paid for travel at each legislative session once each week at the same rate per mile to and from that Legislator's place of abode as state employees receive, the mileage to be determined by the most reasonable direct route, except that Legislators may be reimbursed for tolls paid for travel on the Maine Turnpike as long as they have a receipt for payment of the tolls, such tolls to be reimbursed when Legislators use the Maine Turnpike in traveling to and from sessions of the Legislature or in performance of duly authorized committee assignments. Each Legislator is entitled to mileage on the first day of the session, and those amounts of salary and expenses at such times as the Legislature may determine during the session, and the balance at the end of the session.

**Sec. 2. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

2 "Do you favor setting the base legislative salary at \$15,000  
per year?"

4 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall  
vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a  
6 cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below  
the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,  
8 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings  
and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as  
10 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review  
the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes  
12 are cast in favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim that  
fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30 days after the  
14 date of the proclamation.

16 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each  
city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this  
18 Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

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#### SUMMARY

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24 This bill sets the base legislative salary at \$15,000 per  
year starting in December 2008. The bill also sends the question  
out for referendum.

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