

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

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Legislative Document

No. 2086

S.P. 818

In Senate, March 21, 2006

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### **An Act To Facilitate the Regionalization of Emergency Communications Dispatching Services**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)  
Cosponsored by Representative HANLEY of Gardiner and  
Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, DRISCOLL of Westbrook, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook,  
McCORMICK of West Gardiner.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17656, sub-§2** is enacted to read:

3 **2. Reemployment of public safety communications dispatchers with Department**  
4 **of Public Safety.** Notwithstanding subsection 1, a member of the retirement system  
5 whose previous membership was based upon employment as a public safety  
6 communications dispatcher with a participating local district and whose employment with  
7 the participating local district was terminated as a result of the consolidation of the  
8 participating local district's public safety dispatching services with the Department of  
9 Public Safety and who then becomes employed as a public safety communications  
10 dispatcher for the department may elect to include that previously earned creditable  
11 service with service earned as a state employee if that member:

12 A. Makes a one-time, irrevocable election no later than 30 days after commencing  
13 employment as a public safety communications dispatcher for the Department of  
14 Public Safety; and

15 B. Has not withdrawn accumulated contributions at any time.

16 If a member makes the election provided in this subsection, the State shall make whatever  
17 contribution is necessary to provide the benefits under the retirement system for the  
18 member as though the previous employment had been as a state employee, and all funds  
19 in the retirement system contributed by the member's former employer on account of the  
20 member's previous employment must be transferred to the account of the State and must  
21 be used to liquidate the liability incurred by reason of the previous employment.

22 Upon notification by the Department of Public Safety to the retirement system that an  
23 employee has made an election under this subsection, the retirement system shall  
24 calculate and provide to the Department of Public Safety the amount of the employer  
25 contribution required under this subsection.

26 A member who makes the election provided in this subsection and for whom applicable  
27 additional employer contributions have been paid is entitled to include the creditable  
28 service and earnable compensation with the previous employer with the creditable service  
29 and earnable compensation with the State for the purposes of benefit qualification under  
30 section 17851 and computation of benefits under section 17852.

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill provides that a member of the Maine State Retirement System whose  
33 previous membership was based upon employment as a public safety communications  
34 dispatcher with a participating local district and whose employment with the participating  
35 local district was terminated as a result of the consolidation of the participating local  
36 district's public safety dispatching services with the Department of Public Safety and who  
37 then becomes employed as a public safety communications dispatcher for the department  
38 may elect to include that previously earned creditable service with service earned as a  
39 state employee under certain conditions.