

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1583

S.P. 554

March 20, 2007

**An Act To Provide Retirement Equity to Forest Ranger Supervisory
Personnel Whose Retirement Plans Were Changed after Initial Date
of Hire**

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 BARTLETT of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§1, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 769, §11, is
3 amended to read:

4 C. Forest rangers, except those in District Ranger, Regional Ranger, State Ranger
5 Supervisor and Chief Ranger Pilot job classifications, in the employment of the
6 Department of Conservation on July 1, 1998, or hired thereafter;

7 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§1, ¶C-1** is enacted to read:

8 C-1. District Ranger, Regional Ranger, State Ranger Supervisor and Chief Ranger
9 Pilot job classifications in the Department of Conservation on July 1, 1998, or hired
10 thereafter;

11 **Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§3, ¶A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.
12 510, Pt. D, §2 and affected by §§6 and 7, is amended to read:

13 A. For the purpose of meeting the qualification requirement of subsection 2,
14 paragraph A:

15 (1) Service credit purchased by repayment of an earlier refund of accumulated
16 contributions following termination of service is included only to the extent that
17 time to which the refund relates was served after June 30, 1998 and before
18 September 1, 2002 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs A and B;
19 after June 30, 1998 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs C and D
20 to H; after December 31, 1999 for employees identified in subsection 1,
21 paragraphs I to K; and after June 30, 2002 for employees identified in subsection
22 1, paragraph M, in any one or a combination of the capacities specified in
23 subsection 1. Service credit may be purchased for service by an employee
24 identified in subsection 1, ~~paragraph~~ paragraphs C-1 and L regardless of when
25 performed; and

26 (2) Service credit purchased other than as provided under subparagraph (1),
27 including but not limited to service credit for military service, is not included.

28 **Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§4, ¶A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.
29 510, Pt. D, §3 and affected by §§6 and 7, is amended to read:

30 A. If all of the member's creditable service in any one or a combination of the
31 capacities specified in subsection 1 was earned after June 30, 1998 and before
32 September 1, 2002 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs A and B;
33 after June 30, 1998 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs C and D to
34 H; after December 31, 1999 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs I to
35 K; after December 31, 2001 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph L;
36 ~~and~~ after June 30, 2002 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph M; and
37 regardless of when earned for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph C-1; if
38 service credit was purchased by repayment of an earlier refund of accumulated
39 contributions for service in any one or a combination of the capacities specified in
40 subsection 1 after June 30, 1998 and before September 1, 2002 for employees
41 identified in subsection 1, paragraphs A and B; after June 30, 1998 for employees

1 identified in subsection 1, paragraphs C and D to H; after December 31, 1999 for
2 employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs I to K; after December 31, 2001 for
3 employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph L; ~~and~~ after June 30, 2002 for
4 employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph M; and regardless of when purchased
5 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph C-1; or if service credit was
6 purchased by other than the repayment of an earlier refund and eligibility to make the
7 purchase of the service credit, including, but not limited to, service credit for military
8 service, was achieved after June 30, 1998 and before September 1, 2002 for
9 employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs A and B; after June 30, 1998 for
10 employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs C and D to H; after December 31,
11 1999 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraphs I to K; after December 31,
12 2001 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph L; and after June 30, 2002
13 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph M; and regardless of when earned
14 for employees identified in subsection 1, paragraph C-1, the benefit must be
15 computed as provided in section 17852, subsection 1, paragraph A.

16 (1) If the member had 10 years of creditable service on July 1, 1993, the benefit
17 under subsection 2, paragraph B must be reduced as provided in section 17852,
18 subsection 3, paragraphs A and B.

19 (2) If the member had fewer than 10 years of creditable service on July 1, 1993,
20 the benefit under subsection 2, paragraph B must be reduced by 6% for each year
21 that the member's age precedes 55 years of age.

22 **Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§4, ¶E,** as enacted by PL 2001, c. 409, §5, is
23 amended to read:

24 E. The service retirement benefit of a member to whom subsection 1, paragraph C-
25 1 or L applies and who qualifies for service retirement benefits under subsection 2
26 must be computed under section 17852, subsection 1, paragraph A on the basis of all
27 of the member's creditable service in the capacity specified in subsection 1, paragraph
28 C-1 or L, as appropriate, regardless of when that creditable service was earned,
29 except that for a member qualifying under subsection 2, paragraph B:

30 (1) If the member had 10 years of service on July 1, 1993, the benefit must be
31 reduced as provided in section 17852, subsection 3, paragraphs A and B for each
32 year the member's age precedes 55 years of age; or

33 (2) If the member had fewer than 10 years of creditable service on July 1, 1993,
34 the benefit must be reduced by 6% for each year that the member's age precedes
35 55 years of age.

36 SUMMARY

37 This bill provides that service retirement benefits for District Ranger, Regional
38 Ranger, State Ranger Supervisor and Chief Ranger Pilot job classifications included in
39 the 1998 Special Plan be computed on the basis of all the member's creditable service,
40 regardless of when that service was earned.