

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document **No. 393**

S.P. 135 In Senate, February 5, 2009

**An Act Relating to Death Benefits for Certain Law Enforcement
Officers**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

Handwritten signature of Joy J. O'Brien in cursive.

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GERZOFKY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative HASKELL of Portland and
Senators: ALFOND of Cumberland, DIAMOND of Cumberland, GOODALL of Sagadahoc,
Representative: DAVIS of Sangerville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §1611, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 519, Pt. XXX, §1,
3 is further amended to read:

4 **5. Law enforcement officer or officer.** "Law enforcement officer" or "officer"
5 means an active state police officer, municipal police officer, county sheriff, deputy
6 sheriff, game warden, an employee of the Office of the State Fire Marshal who has law
7 enforcement powers pursuant to section 2396, subsection 7, fire marshal, state judicial
8 marshal or state judicial deputy marshal, ~~liquor enforcement officer~~ forest ranger, Baxter
9 State Park ranger, a detective employed by the Office of the Attorney General pursuant to
10 Title 5, section 202, a person employed by the Department of Corrections as an
11 investigative officer as defined in Title 34-A, section 1001, subsection 10-A, a juvenile
12 community corrections officer as described in Title 34-A, section 5602, a probation
13 officer, a security officer appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety pursuant to
14 section 2908, a motor vehicle investigator appointed by the Secretary of State pursuant to
15 Title 29-A, section 152 or marine patrol officer in this State.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 Under current law, a state benefit of \$50,000 is paid to the family of an eligible law
18 enforcement officer who has died in the line of duty. This bill expands the list of eligible
19 law enforcement officers to include forest rangers, Baxter State Park rangers, detectives
20 employed by the Office of the Attorney General, investigative officers employed by the
21 Department of Corrections, juvenile community corrections officers, probation officers,
22 certain security officers appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety and motor
23 vehicle investigators appointed by the Secretary of State. This bill also removes an
24 obsolete reference to liquor enforcement officers.