

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2016

Legislative Document

No. 1679

H.P. 1149

House of Representatives, March 29, 2016

**An Act To Increase the Salary of the Governor and the Salary of
Legislators upon Reduction in the Size of the Legislature**

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

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DUNPHY of Embden. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §1**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 361, Pt. B, §1, is further amended
3 to read:

4 **§1. Residence; office hours; secretary; salary**

5 The ~~Governor shall have his~~ Governor's official residence ~~at is located in~~ Augusta
6 during ~~his the Governor's~~ term of office, and the Governor shall keep ~~his the Governor's~~
7 office ~~at the State House~~ open for the transaction of the business of the State during all
8 normal working hours of the State House.

9 In the absence of the Governor, ~~his the Governor's~~ private secretary shall be in
10 attendance and the private secretary shall devote ~~his the~~ entire time to the duties of ~~his the~~
11 private secretary's office.

12 Until the first Wednesday of January 1987, the Governor ~~shall receive~~ receives an
13 annual salary of \$35,000. Beginning the first Wednesday of January 1987, the Governor
14 ~~shall receive~~ receives an annual salary of \$70,000. Beginning the first Wednesday of
15 January 2019, the Governor receives an annual salary of \$150,000.

16 A former Governor may accept as a personal gift from the State at the end of ~~his the~~
17 Governor's final term the desk and chair used by that Governor as Governor.

18 **Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §2, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. QQQQ, §1, is
19 further amended to read:

20 ~~Each~~ Except as provided in section 2-C, each member of the Senate and House of
21 Representatives, beginning with the first Wednesday of December 2000 and thereafter, is
22 entitled to \$10,815 in the first year and \$7,725 in the 2nd year of each biennium, except
23 that if a Legislator who is a recipient of retirement benefits from the federal Social
24 Security Administration files a written request with the Executive Director of the
25 Legislative Council within one week after the biennium commences, the Legislator is
26 entitled to \$9,270 in each year of the biennium. Each member of the Senate and the
27 House of Representatives must receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative
28 salary, except that the percentage increase may not exceed 5% in any year, and except
29 that the percentage increase may not exceed 3% beginning with the fiscal year ending
30 June 30, 2014. Beginning December 1, 2001, the salary for each legislative session must
31 be adjusted each December 1st by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for
32 the most recently concluded fiscal year; except that no member of the Senate or the
33 House of Representatives may receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative
34 salary for the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature, and except that no
35 member of the Senate or the House of Representatives may receive a cost-of-living
36 adjustment in annual legislative salary for the Second Regular Session of the 125th
37 Legislature and the First Regular Session and the Second Regular Session of the 126th
38 Legislature, and any percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the fiscal years
39 ending June 30, 2011, June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2013 may not be applied to the base
40 salary. In addition, each Legislator is entitled to be paid for travel at each legislative
41 session once each week at the same rate per mile to and from that Legislator's place of

1 abode as state employees receive, the mileage to be determined by the most reasonable
2 direct route, except that Legislators may be reimbursed for tolls paid for travel on the
3 Maine Turnpike as long as they have a receipt for payment of the tolls, such tolls to be
4 reimbursed when Legislators use the Maine Turnpike in traveling to and from sessions of
5 the Legislature or in performance of duly authorized committee assignments. Each
6 Legislator is entitled to mileage on the first day of the session, and those amounts of
7 salary and expenses at such times as the Legislature may determine during the session,
8 and the balance at the end of the session.

9 **Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §2-C** is enacted to read:

10 **§2-C. Salaries for Legislators contingent on reduction in size of Legislature**

11 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2 establishing the salaries of members of
12 the Senate and House of Representatives, if, pursuant to an amendment to the
13 Constitution of Maine, the number of members of the Senate is reduced to 25 or fewer
14 and the number of members of the House of Representatives is reduced to 100 or fewer,
15 then the salary specified in section 2, as adjusted for cost of living pursuant to section 2,
16 must be increased by 25%, beginning with the first biennium during which the number of
17 members is reduced.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill increases the Governor's salary from \$70,000 per year to \$150,000 per year
20 beginning January 2019.

21 The bill also increases the salaries of members of the Senate and House of
22 Representatives by 25% if the number of members of the Senate is reduced to 25 or fewer
23 and the number of members of the House of Representatives is reduced to 100 or fewer.