

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2018

Legislative Document

No. 1878

H.P. 1310

House of Representatives, March 22, 2018

**An Act To Increase the Annual Salary of the Governor and To
Increase the Per Diem Meal and Housing Allowances Paid to
Legislators**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake. (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~~ that
17 Governor's final term the desk and chair used by that Governor as Governor.

18 **Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §2, 4th ¶**, as corrected by RR 2001, c. 2, Pt. A, §1, is amended to
19 read:

20 Except as provided in this section, each member of the Senate and House of
21 Representatives is entitled to a meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$50 and a housing
22 allowance in the amount of ~~\$38~~ \$75 for each day in attendance at sessions of the
23 Legislature and for each day the member occupies overnight accommodations away from
24 home either immediately preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions
25 of the Legislature. The presiding officers may establish reasonable policies regarding
26 allowances for meals and overnight accommodations for the day immediately preceding
27 the session, which may include policies regarding whether an allowance is paid, whether
28 the full amount or a portion of the statutory allowance is paid and whether receipts are
29 required. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member is entitled to a daily
30 meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$50 and actual daily mileage allowances in an
31 amount up to but not exceeding \$38 per day. Each member of the Senate also receives an
32 annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$2,000, \$1,300 in January and
33 \$700 in the month following adjournment of the regular session. Each member of the
34 House of Representatives also receives an annual allowance for constituent services in the
35 amount of \$1,500, \$1,005 in January and \$495 in the month following adjournment of the
36 regular session. Notwithstanding this section, during the first regular session of each
37 legislative biennium, a member of the Senate or the House of Representatives may elect
38 to receive the first payment of the annual allowance for constituent services in December
39 following convening of the Legislature by notifying the Executive Director of the
40 Legislative Council in the manner prescribed by the executive director. The Executive
41 Director of the Legislative Council shall inform Legislators of the choice available for

1 payment of the allowance for constituent services in the first year of the legislative
2 biennium and of any tax implications associated with exercising that choice.

3 **Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §2, 11th ¶**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 501, Pt. O, §5; c. 600, Pt.
4 B, §§9 and 10; and c. 878, Pt. D, §§14 and 15, is further amended to read:

5 The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the floor
6 leaders and their assistants and members of a committee, with the approval of the
7 President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives as to members of a
8 committee, may also meet on days when the Legislature is not in daily session at any
9 convenient location within the State. Each member of the Senate and House of
10 Representatives ~~shall receive~~ receives \$55 for every day's attendance when meetings or
11 daily sessions are held, a meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$50 and a housing
12 allowance whereby actual lodging expenses will be reimbursed at the single-room rate,
13 ~~provided that~~ as long as a receipt is submitted to the Executive Director of the Legislative
14 Council for each day in attendance at such meetings or daily sessions and for each day
15 that member occupies overnight accommodations away from home either immediately
16 preceding or immediately following attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature and
17 actual daily mileage allowances ~~which shall~~ that must be paid at the same rate paid to
18 state employees. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member ~~shall be~~ is
19 entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$50 and actual daily mileage
20 allowances.

21 SUMMARY

22 This bill increases the Governor's salary from \$70,000 per year to \$150,000 per year
23 beginning January 2019. The bill also increases the Legislative meal and housing
24 allowances from \$32 and \$38 to \$50 and \$75, respectively.