

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5-31-19

L.D. 1667

(Filing No. H-422)

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STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1193, L.D. 1667, Bill, "An Act To Increase Salaries for Elected State Officials and To Amend the Laws Governing the State Compensation Commission"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the State Compensation Commission'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Governor's current annual salary was established in 1987 and is the lowest in the nation; and

Whereas, the current annual salary of members of the Legislature was established in 1999 with an annual cost-of-living increase not to exceed 3% per year; and

Whereas, the State Compensation Commission, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, chapter 1, is charged to review and make recommendations on compensation for all constitutional officers on an ongoing basis; and

Whereas, the State Compensation Commission must complete its work, including producing a report and holding a public hearing, by January 15, 2020; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §2-B, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2017, c. 242, §2, is further amended to read:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **2. Duties of commission.** No later than ~~May 1st of every odd-numbered year and~~
2 January 15th of every even-numbered year the commission shall submit to the Legislature
3 ~~an interim report of the commission, and no later than November 15th of every even-~~
4 ~~numbered year the commission shall submit to the Legislature and the joint standing~~
5 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters
6 a final report of the commission. In the ~~3rd~~ last year of each gubernatorial term of office,
7 the ~~interim~~ report must contain a recommendation for compensation of the Governor as
8 established in Title 2, section 1. A report under this subsection must contain:

9 A. A description of the commission's activities;

10 B. The recommendations of the commission:

11 (1-A) For the report required in the ~~3rd~~ last year of a gubernatorial term, for
12 compensation for the Governor, including all payments for salaries, meals,
13 housing, travel, mileage, constituent services and all other expenses and
14 allowances;

15 (1-B) For compensation for justices and judges, including all payments for
16 salaries, meals, housing, travel, mileage and all other expenses and allowances,
17 and for additional services by any justice or judge. Nothing in this subparagraph
18 prevents the judicial branch from making recommendations to the Governor or
19 Legislature for compensation for justices and judges, including, but not limited
20 to, recommendations made by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court in
21 preparing the budget of the judicial branch as required by Title 4, section 1; and

22 (1-C) For compensation of Legislators, representatives of Indian tribes, Secretary
23 and Assistant Secretary of the Senate and Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the House
24 of Representatives, including all payments for salaries, meals, housing, travel,
25 mileage, constituent services and all other expenses and allowances, and for
26 additional services by the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of
27 Representatives and members of legislative leadership;

28 C. The reasons for its recommendations;

29 D. Drafts of any legislation required to implement its recommendations; and

30 E. Any other material and recommendations that commission members may wish to
31 submit.

32 Before reporting as required in this subsection and subsequent to giving public notice, the
33 commission shall hold a public hearing on the report. Subsequent to reporting, the
34 commission shall meet, if requested, with the Governor, the Legislative Council and
35 legislative committees to discuss the report.

36 The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local
37 government matters may introduce a bill based upon the final report of the commission.

38 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
39 legislation takes effect when approved.'

40 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
41 section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

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2 This amendment changes the title and strikes the bill, adding an emergency preamble
3 and clause. It amends the statutory reporting requirements of the State Compensation
4 Commission, eliminating alternate year interim reports and changing the final report
5 submission to require the State Compensation Commission to submit a report to the
6 Legislature and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
7 state and local government matters by January 15th of every even-numbered year. The
8 amendment authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
9 over state and local government matters to introduce legislation based on the
10 commission's report.