

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 293

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H.P. 206

House of Representatives, February 3, 2021

**An Act To Increase the State's Share of the Cost of Health  
Insurance for Retired Teachers**

(EMERGENCY)

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Received by the Clerk of the House on February 1, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Senator: President JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

3           **Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day  
4 period in order to provide an increase in the State's share of the cost of health insurance for  
5 retired teachers at the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

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

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

11           **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13451, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. H, §3, is  
12 further amended to read:

13           **3. Payment by State.** The State shall pay a percentage of the retired teacher members'  
14 share of this insurance according to the following schedule:

- 15           A. Thirty percent until July 1, 2002;
- 16           B. Thirty-five percent from July 1, 2002 to July 31, 2003;
- 17           C. Forty percent from August 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005; and
- 18           D. Forty-five percent ~~after December 31, 2005~~; from January 1, 2006 to June 30, 2021;  
19           and
- 20           E. Fifty-five percent after June 30, 2021.

21           Except for individuals who are receiving or who have received retirement benefits under  
22 Title 5, section 17907 or 17929, for a teacher who retires after July 1, 2012, the State shall  
23 begin paying the percentage of the retired teacher member's share pursuant to this  
24 subsection when the retiree reaches normal retirement age.

25           ~~For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, June 30, 2013, June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015,~~  
26           ~~the State's total cost for retired teachers' health insurance premiums is budgeted at the fiscal~~  
27           ~~year 2010-11 funding level adjusted for projected membership growth. The increase in the~~  
28           ~~State's total cost for retired teachers' health insurance premiums for fiscal years ending after~~  
29           ~~June 30, 2015 is budgeted at no more than any percentage increase in the Consumer Price~~  
30           ~~Index as defined in Title 5, section 17001, subsection 9 plus 3%. A provider of a health~~  
31           insurance benefit plan for retired teachers must make available data related to the provider's  
32           premium costs and any related data as requested by the Executive Director of Health  
33           Insurance within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

34           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
35 takes effect when approved.

36           **SUMMARY**

37           This bill requires the State to pay 55% of a retired teacher's share of the premium for  
38 group accident and sickness or health insurance after June 30, 2021. It also removes some  
39 outdated language.