

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1235

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H.P. 783

House of Representatives, March 21, 2023

### **An Act to Provide Compensation to and to Limit Work Hours of Jail Employees**

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §1511** is enacted to read:

3 **§1511. Hours of employees**

4 Beginning January 1, 2024, a jail employee may not work more than 18 hours in a 24-  
5 hour period except in exceptional circumstances or when the Governor has declared a state  
6 of emergency pursuant to Title 37-B, section 742, subsection 1. For the purposes of this  
7 section, "exceptional circumstances" means circumstances beyond the control of the sheriff  
8 or jail administrator that pose a threat to the safekeeping of persons committed or  
9 transferred to or detained in the custody of the jail, the safe operation of the jail in  
10 accordance with this chapter and the standards set pursuant to Title 34-A, chapter 1,  
11 subchapter 2 or the safe performance by employees of the jail of their duties.

12 **Sec. 2. Compensation for jail employees.** The Treasurer of State shall issue  
13 additional compensation of \$2,500 to each employee of a county jail under the Maine  
14 Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 13.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill prohibits, beginning January 1, 2024, a jail employee from working more than  
17 18 hours in a 24-hour period except in exceptional circumstances or when the Governor  
18 has declared a state of emergency. The bill also directs the Treasurer of State to issue  
19 additional compensation of \$2,500 to every jail employee in the State.