

Date 6/20/23

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MAJORITY

(Filing No S-385)

LABOR AND HOUSING

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE	
SENATE	
131ST LEGISLATURE	

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S P 800, L D 1964, "An Act to Implement
 the Recommendations of the Commission to Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave
 Benefits Program"

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

13 'An Act to Create the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 3 and 4 and inserting the following

15 'Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §42, first ¶, as amended by PL 1999, c 649, §1, 1s further
 amended to read

17 The bureau shall collect, assort and arrange statistical details relating to all departments 18 of labor and industrial pursuits in the State, to trade unions and other labor organizations 19 and their effect upon labor and capital, to the number and character of industrial accidents 20 and their effect upon the injured, their dependent relatives and upon the general public, to 21 other matters relating to the commercial, industrial, social, educational, moral and sanitary 22 conditions prevailing within the State, including the names of firms, companies or 23 corporations, where located, the kind of goods produced or manufactured, the time operated 24 each year, the number of employees classified according to age and sex and the daily and 25 average wages paid each employee, and the exploitation of such other subjects as will tend 26 to promote the permanent prosperity of the industries of the State The director is authorized 27 and empowered, subject to the approval of the Governor, to accept from any other agency 28 of government, individual, group or corporation such funds as may be available in carrying 29 out this section, and meet such requirements with respect to the administration of such 30 funds, not inconsistent with this section, as are required as conditions precedent to receiving 31 such funds An accounting of such funds and a report of the use to which they were put 32 must be included in the biennial report to the Governor Each agency of government shall 33 cooperate fully with the bureau's efforts to compile labor and industrial statistics. The 34 director shall cause to be enforced all laws regulating the employment of minors, all laws 35 established for the protection of health, lives and limbs of operators in workshops and 36 factories, on railroads and in other places, all laws regulating the payment of wages, and

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1 all laws enacted for the protection of the working classes During an investigation to 2 enforce those laws, the director may request records and other information relating to an 3 employer's compliance with unemployment compensation and workers' compensation 4 laws, including information needed to determine whether the employer has properly 5 classified a worker as an independent contractor, and shall report suspected violations of 6 those laws to the state or federal agency responsible for enforcing them The director may 7 adopt, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, rules regarding all such 8 laws, except where this authority is granted to a board or commission Rules adopted 9 pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, 10 subchapter II-A 2-A The director shall, on or before the first day of July, biennially, report 11 to the Governor, and may make such suggestions and recommendations as the director may deem necessary for the information of the Legislature The director may from time to time 12 cause to be printed and distributed bulletins upon any subject that is of public interest and 13 14 benefit to the State, including, but not limited to, the paid family and medical leave benefits program established in chapter 7, subchapter 6-C, and may conduct a program of research, 15 education and promotion to reduce industrial accidents The director may review various 16 17 data, such as workers' compensation records, as well as other information relating to any 18 public or private employer's safety experience When any individual public or private 19 employer's safety experience causes the director to question seriously the safe working 20 environment of that employer, the director may offer any safety education and consultation 21 programs to that employer that may be beneficial in providing a safer work environment 22 If the employer refuses this assistance or is in serious noncompliance which may lead to 23 injuries, or if serious threats to worker safety continue, then the director shall communicate 24 concerns to appropriate agencies, such as the United States Occupational Safety and Health 25 Administration As used in this section, the term "noncompliance" means a lack of compliance with any applicable health and safety regulations of the United States 26 Occupational Safety and Health Administration or other federal agencies The bureau is 27 responsible for the enforcement of indoor air quality and ventilation standards with respect 28 29 to state-owned buildings and buildings leased by the State The bureau shall enforce air quality standards in a manner to ensure that corrections to problems found in buildings be 30 31 made over a reasonable period of time, using consent agreements and other approaches as 32 necessary and reasonable 33

Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §42-B, sub-§1, ¶F, as amended by PL 2019, c 156, §1 and affected by §4, is further amended to read

F Minimum wage and overtime provisions as described in section 664, and

 36
 Sec. 5. 26 MRSA §42-B, sub-§1, ¶G, as enacted by PL 2019, c 156, §2 and

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 affected by §4, is amended to read

38 G Earned paid leave-, and

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39 Sec. 6. 26 MRSA §42-B, sub-§1, ¶H is enacted to read

40 <u>H Paid family and medical leave as provided in chapter 7, subchapter 6-C</u>

41 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 1 in the 2nd line 42 (page 2, line 4 in L D) by inserting after the following "<u>implement</u>" the following '<u>and</u> 43 <u>operate</u>'

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39 40 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S P 800, L D 1964

1 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A by striking out all of subsection 2 2 (page 2, lines 5 to 7 in L D)3 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A by striking out all of subsection 4 4 (page 2, lines 10 to 14 in L D) and inserting the following 5 4. Average weekly wage "Average weekly wage," as used to establish the maximum 6 weekly benefit amount for purposes of this subchapter, means 1/52 of aggregate total wages 7 paid in the State for a covered individual, as reported on employer contribution reports for 8 the calendar year, divided by the arithmetic mean of midmonth weekly covered 9 employment reported on employer contribution reports for the calendar year in the form 10 and manner determined by the department ' 11 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A by striking out all of subsection 6 12 (page 2, lines 17 to 19 in L D) and inserting the following 13 '6 Benefit year "Benefit year" means the 12-month period beginning on the first day 14 of the calendar week immediately preceding the date on which family leave benefits or 15 medical leave benefits commence '

16 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 8 in the first line 17 (page 2, line 21 in L D) by striking out the following "made by an employee" and inserting 18 the following 'remitted by an employer'

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 14 in the last line (page 3, line 14 in L D) by inserting after the following "employment" the following 'm the State'

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 15 in paragraph D in the first line (page 3, line 21 in L D) by striking out the following "and"

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 15 in paragraph E in 24 25 the first line (page 3, line 22 in L D) by striking out the following "_" and inserting the 26 following ', and'

27 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 15 by inserting after 28 paragraph E the following

'F A tribal government that has elected coverage pursuant to section 850-G'

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 18 in the last line (page 3, line 30 in L D) by striking out the following "1" and inserting the following $\frac{2}{2}$

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 20 by striking out all 32 of paragraph G (page 4, lines 14 to 16 in L D) and inserting the following 33

'G As designated by the covered individual in accordance with rule, an individual with 34 whom the covered individual has a significant personal bond that is or is like a family relationship, regardless of biological or legal relationship ' 36

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 23 in the last line (page 4, line 24 in L D) by striking out the following "2" and inserting the following '3'

Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A by sticking out all of subsection 26 (page 4, lines 30 to 37 in L D) and inserting the following

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1 2 3	'26. Qualifying exigency. "Qualifying exigency" means an exigency determined pursuant to the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 United States Code, Section 2612(a)(1)(E)'
4 5 6	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 28 in the first line (page 5, line 16 in LD) by inserting after the following "means" the following 'an independent contractor as described in section 1043, subsection 11, paragraph E,'
7 8 9	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-A in subsection 31 in the 2nd line (page 5, line 28 in L D) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
10 11	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -A by striking out all of subsection 32 (page 5, lines 30 and 31 in L D) and inserting the following
12 13 14 15	'32. Wages. "Wages" includes, but is not limited to, salary, wages, tips, commissions and other compensation as determined by rule. For a self-employed individual who elects coverage under section 850-G, "wages" includes, but is not limited to, self-employment income as defined by 26 United States Code, Section 1402(b)'
16 17	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -B by striking out all of the first indented paragraph (page 5, lines 36 to 40 in L D) and inserting the following
18 19 20 21 22	'The paid family and medical leave benefits program is established effective January 1, 2026 The program is administered by the department In accordance with subsection 1, the department may, through contract after a competitive bidding process subject to the requirements of Title 5, section 1816-B, authorize a 3rd party to conduct claims administration '
23 24	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-B by inserting after the first indented paragraph the following
25 26	' <u>1. Competitive bidding process.</u> Any competitive bidding process used by the department pursuant to this section is governed by this subsection
27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	A The minimum criteria established by the department to evaluate a proposal must include, but are not limited to cost, transparency of business operations, efficiency of business operations, quality of work related to the potential contracts issued, user experience, confidentiality and use of claimant data, software development, information technology and state ownership of software and specialized information technology, accountability, experience with providing education to the public related to claims, and a cost-benefit analysis documenting the direct and indirect costs of such a contract, including qualitative and quantitative benefits that will result from the implementation of such a contract
36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43	<u>B</u> Any 3rd party that submits a proposal must have a meaningful physical presence in the State, have no adjudicated record of substantial or repeated willful noncompliance with any relevant federal, state or local law, statute or regulation, including payment of taxes or other payments owed to a public entity, attest to compliance with all applicable local, state and federal laws, regulations and statutes, including health and safety, labor and employment and licensing laws that affect the employees, worksite or performance of the contract, complete a signed pledge of compliance provided by the State to comply with all applicable laws, statutes and regulations, and attest that

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1 any projected cost savings may not derive from the 3rd party's failure to provide 2 adequate wages 3 C The requirements of Title 5, section 1825-B, subsection 7 do not apply ' 4 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 2 in the last 2 lines 5 (page 6, lines 11 and 12 in L D) by striking out the following "perform the job functions 6 for the position held by that covered individual" and inserting the following 'work' 7 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 3 in paragraph A in 8 the first 2 lines (page 6, lines 14 and 15 in LD) by striking out the following "an 9 application" and inserting the following 'a benefit' 10 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 3 in paragraph B in the first 2 lines (page 6, lines 16 and 17 in LD) by striking out the following "an 11 12 application" and inserting the following 'a benefit' 13 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 3 in paragraph C in 14 the first line (page 6, line 18 in L D) by striking out the following "16" and inserting the 15 following '12' 16 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 3 in paragraph C in 17 the last line (page 6, line 19 in LD) by striking out the following "application" and 18 inserting the following 'benefit' 19 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B by striking out all of subsection 6 20 (page 6, lines 32 to 36 in L D) and inserting the following 21 '6 Notice to employer. Absent an emergency, illness or other sudden necessity for taking leave, an employee shall give reasonable notice to the employee's supervisor of the 22 23 employee's intent to use leave under this subchapter Use of such leave must be scheduled 24 to prevent undue hardship on the employer as reasonably determined by the employer If 25 an employer fails to provide notice as required under section 850-I, the employee's obligation to provide notice under this subsection is waived ' 26 27 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 8 in the first line (page 7, line 3 in L D) by striking out the following "7" and inserting the following '8' 28 29 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 9 in the first line 30 (page 7, line 7 in L D) by inserting after the following "bargaining" the following ': 31 employer policy; greater or additional rights' 32 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 9 in paragraph B in the last line (page 7, line 12 in L D) by striking out the following ", or" and inserting the 33 following ',' 34 35 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 9 in paragraph C in the last line (page 7, line 14 in L D) by striking out the following "_" and inserting the 36 37 following ', or' 38 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 9 by inserting after 39 paragraph C the following 'D Require a public employer, as defined in section 962, subsection 7, or employee of 40 a public employer that is a party to a collective bargaining agreement in existence on 41

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S P 800, L D 1964
1 2	the effective date of this subchapter to apply any of the rights and responsibilities under this subchapter until the existing collective bargaining agreement expires '
3 4 5	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-B in subsection 10 in the last line (page 7, line 19 in LD) by striking out the following "application" and inserting the following 'benefit'
6 7	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-B by inserting after subsection 10 the following
8 9 10 11 12	'11. Employer policy may not waive employee rights. An employer policy adopted or retained on or after the effective date of this subchapter may not diminish an employee's right to benefits under this subchapter. Any agreement by an employee to waive the employee's rights under this subchapter is against public policy and is void and unenforceable.'
13 14	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-B by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively
15 16	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -C by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 7, lines 25 to 28 in L D) and inserting the following
17 18 19	'2. Determination of weekly benefit amount. The weekly benefit amount paid to employees and self-employed individuals on family leave or medical leave is calculated as follows
20 21	A The portion of the covered individual's average weekly wage that is equal to or less than 50% of the state average weekly wage must be replaced at a rate of 90%, and
22 23 24	<u>B</u> The portion of the covered individual's average weekly wage that is more than 50% of the state average weekly wage must be replaced at a rate of 66% up to the maximum weekly benefit '
25 26	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-C by striking out all of subsection 3 (page 7, lines 29 to 33 in L D) and inserting the following
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27 3. Maximum benefit amount adjustment. The maximum weekly benefit amount 28 calculated under subsection 2 is the state average weekly wage. By January 1st of the year 29 in which claims begin being processed and annually thereafter, the department shall take 30 into consideration the recommendation of the authority to adjust the maximum weekly 31 benefit amount as necessary, and the adjusted maximum weekly benefit amount takes effect 32 on January 1st of the year following the adjustment The authority shall recommend 33 adjusting the maximum benefit amount in order to maintain the solvency of the fund at a 34 level of at least the annualized amount described in section 850-E, subsection 3 '

- 35 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-C in subsection 4 in the last line (page 36 7, line 36 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 37 'department'
- 38 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-C in subsection 5 by striking out all 39 of paragraph A (page 7, lines 40 and 41 and page 8, lines 1 and 2 in L D) and inserting the 40 following
- 41 'A A government program or law, including, but not limited to, unemployment 42 insurance under this Title and workers' compensation under Title 39-A other than for

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S P 800, L D 1964
1 2 3	compensation received under Title 39-A, section 213 for an injury that occurred prior to the family leave or medical leave claim, or under other state or federal temporary or permanent disability benefits law, or
4 5	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-D by striking out all of subsection 4 (page 8, lines 19 to 24 in L D) and inserting the following
6 7 8 9 10 11	'4 Confidentiality. Any medical or health information required under this section must be treated as confidential and may not be disclosed except with permission from the covered individual who provided it unless disclosure is otherwise required by law Nothing in this section may be construed to compel a health care provider to provide any information for certification that would be in violation of Section 1177 of the federal Social Security Act, 42 United States Code, Section 1320d-6'
12 13 14	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-D in subsection 5 in the 6th line (page 8, line 30 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
15 16 17	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-E in subsection 1 in the 6th line (page 8, line 38 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
18 19 20	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-E in subsection 1 in the 8th line (page 8, line 40 in L D) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
21 22	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-E by striking out all of subsection 3 (page 9, lines 8 to 10 in L D) and inserting the following
23 24 25	'3. Annualized amount The fund must maintain an annualized amount as determined by an annual study by a qualified actuary that examines the program's recent and expected future claims experience, administrative expenses and target fund requirements '
26 27	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -E by striking out all of subsection 6 (page 9, lines 26 to 42 and page 10, lines 1 to 4 in L D) and inserting the following
28 29 30	'6. Report. Beginning October 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the administrator shall publish a report providing the following information concerning the program for the previous fiscal year
31 32	A The total claims made, the total eligible claims and the percentage of total eligible claims out of total claims made,
33	B The percentage of eligible claims attributable to medical leave.
34 35	C The percentage of eligible claims attributable to family leave for the serious health condition of a family member.
36 37	D The percentage of eligible claims attributable to family leave other than for the birth, adoption or fostering of a child,
38 39	E The percentage of eligible claims attributable to family leave for the birth, adoption or fostering of a child,
40 41	F The percentage of eligible claims attributable to family leave for a qualifying exigency,

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S P 800, L D 1964
1 2	<u>G</u> The percentage of eligible claims attributable to family leave for a covered service member.
3 4	H The claimant demographics by age, gender identification, race, ethnicity, average weekly wage, occupation and the type of leave taken,
5	I The percentage of claims denied and the reasons for the denials,
6 7	J The average weekly benefit amount paid for all claims and by the type of leave taken,
8 9	K The category of family member for whom family medical leave was taken to care for the family member's serious medical condition.
10	L The time for initial claims processing and determination,
11	M The average length of time between an application and receipt of benefits,
12	N The average leave duration for each purpose of leave, and
13	O Any changes in gross benefits paid compared to the previous fiscal year
14 15 16	The administrator shall submit the annual report required by this subsection to the department, the authority and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters'
17 18	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -F by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 10, lines 9 to 11 in L D) and inserting the following
19 20 21 22	'2. Employer to remit employer contribution reports and premiums. Beginning January 1, 2025, for each employee, an employer shall remit employer contribution reports and premiums in the form and manner determined by the administrator Employer contribution reports and premiums must be remitted quarterly '
23 24	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$$ 50-F in subsection 3 by striking out all of paragraph B (page 10, lines 15 to 27 in L D) and inserting the following
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	'B Annually, for the 2028 calendar year and each calendar year thereafter, not later than October 1st, the department shall set the premium for the coming calendar year based on a percentage of employee wages and at the rate necessary to obtain a total amount of premium contributions in order to maintain the solvency of the fund at a level of at least the annualized amount described in section 850-E, subsection 3, plus an amount equal to 100% of the cost of administration of the payment of those benefits during the previous fiscal year, less the amount of net assets remaining in the fund as of June 30th of the current calendar year If, for the 2028 calendar year or any calendar year thereafter, the premium rate adjustment pursuant to this subsection is an increase and results in the difference between the rate of the upcoming calendar year and the current calendar year equaling more than 0 1% of wages paid, the department shall submit a report regarding fund solvency and factors contributing to rate setting to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters.' Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-F in subsection 4 in paragraph A in the first line (page 10, line 30 in L D) by inserting after the following "pay" the following
40 41	' <u>up to</u> ' Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-F in subsection 4 in paragraph A in
42	the 2nd line (page 10, line 31 in L D) by striking out the following "for an employee"

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1 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-F in subsection 5 in paragraph A in 2 the last line (page 10, line 39 in LD) by striking out the following "premium" and 3 inserting the following 'combined premium contribution' 4 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-F in subsection 9 in the last 2 lines 5 (page 11, lines 15 and 16 in L D) by striking out the following "for the 2028 calendar year 6 and annually thereafter" and inserting the following 'annually' 7 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-G in subsection 1 in the 4th line (page 8 11, line 32 in LD) by striking out the following "administratoi" and inserting the 9 following 'department' 10 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-G in subsection 1 in the 6th line (page 11 11, line 34 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 12 following 'department' 13 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-G in subsection 3 in the last line (page 14 11, line 43 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 15 following 'department' 16 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-G by inserting after subsection 3 the 17 following 18 4. Tribal government A tribal government may elect to be covered under this 19 subchaptel, or to terminate coverage, in the same manner as provided in this section, subject 20 to such procedures as the department may require by rule ' 21 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in the 2nd line 22 (page 12, line 3 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 23 following 'department' 24 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 25 12, line 4 in L D) by striking out the following "all of the same" 26 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in the 4th line (page 27 12, line 5 in L D) by inserting after the following "benefits" the following 'substantially 28 equivalent to those' Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in paragraph A in 29 30 the last line (page 12, line 7 in L D) by striking out the following "<u>1 and 2</u>" and inserting the following '2 and 3' 31 32 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph B (page 12, lines 8 to 10 in L D) and inserting the following 33 34 'B Providing family leave benefits and medical leave benefits to a covered individual 35 for a maximum number of weeks substantially equivalent to the maximum number of 36 weeks required in section 850-B, subsection 4 in a benefit year, 37 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in paragraph C in the last line (page 12, line 12 in LD) by striking out the following "of at least" and 38 39 inserting the following 'that is substantially equivalent to' 40 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in paragraph D in the last line (page 12, line 14 m L D) by striking out the following "of at least" and 41 inserting the following 'that is substantially equivalent to' 42

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S P 800, L D 1964 1 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 1 in paragraph E in 2 the last line (page 12, line 16 in LD) by striking out the following "4" and inserting the following '5' 3 4 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 2 in paragraph A in 5 the last line (page 12, line 31 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and 6 inserting the following 'department' 7 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 2 in paragraph C in 8 the last line (page 12, line 35 in LD) by striking out the following "approved by" and 9 inserting the following 'authorized to do business in' 10 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 3 in the first line (page 12, line 36 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 11 12 following 'department' 13 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 5 in the 2nd line 14 (page 13, line 10 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department' 15 16 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 6 in the 2nd line (page 13, line 13 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 17 18 following 'department' 19 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 6 in the 3rd line (page 20 13, line 14 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 21 following 'department' 22 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 7 in the first line 23 (page 13, line 16 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 24 following 'department' 25 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 7 in the 2nd line 26 (page 13, line 17 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 27 following 'department' 28 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 7 in the 4th line (page 13, line 19 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 29 30 following 'department' 31 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 7 in the 5th line (page 32 13, line 20 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 33 following 'department' 34 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H in subsection 7 in the 5th line (page 13, line 20 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator shall" and inserting the 35 following 'department shall' 36 37 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-H by inserting after subsection 7 the 38 following 39 '8. Rules. The department shall adopt rules in accordance with section 850-Q regarding the determination of what constitutes a private plan that may be approved under 40 41 this section '

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1 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-I in subsection 1 in the 2nd line (page 2 13, line 24 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 3 following 'department' 4 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-I in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 5 13, line 25 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 6 following 'department' 7 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-I in subsection 1 in the last line (page 8 13, line 30 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 9 following 'department' 10 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-I in subsection 2 in the 3rd line (page 11 13, line 33 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 12 following 'department' 13 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-I by striking out all of subsection 4 14 (page 14, lines 7 to 12 in L D) 15 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C by striking out all of §850-J (page 14, lines 16 13 to 25 in L D) and inserting the following 17 '§850-J. Employer requirements; return to work from family or medical leave 1. Restoration to position upon return to work. Except for an employee who has 18 19 not been employed for at least 120 days, an employee who exercises the right to family 20 leave or medical leave under this subchapter is entitled, upon return from that leave, to be 21 restored by the employer to the position held by the employee when the leave commenced 22 or to be restored to an equivalent position with equivalent employment benefits, pay and 23 other terms and conditions of employment 24 2. Retaliation prohibited. An employer may not discharge, fire, suspend, expel or 25 discipline, through the application of attendance policies or otherwise, or threaten or in any 26 manner discriminate against an employee for the exercise of any right to which the employee is entitled under this subchapter or with the purpose of interfering with the 27 28 exercise of any right to which the employee is entitled under this subchapter 29 3. Enforcement; violation. The department shall take enforcement action against an 30 employer for a violation of this section ' 31 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-K in subsection 1 in the first line 32 (page 14, line 27 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 33 following 'department' 34 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-K in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 35 14, line 29 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 36 following 'department' 37 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-K in subsection 2 in the last line (page 38 14, line 34 in LD) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 39 following 'department' 40 Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-K in subsection 3 in the first line (page 14, line 35 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the 41 42 following 'department'

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " β " to S P 800, L D 1964
1 2 3	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-L in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 14, line 42 in LD) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
4 5 6	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-L in subsection 2 in the 3rd line (page 15, line 5 in L D) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
7 8 9	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-L in subsection 2 in the 4th line (page 15, line 6 in L D) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
10 11 12	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -M in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 15, line 12 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
13 14	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -M by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 15, lines 21 to 26 in L D)
15 16 17	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-M in subsection 3 in the first line (page 15, line 27 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
18 19	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-M by striking out all of subsection 4 (page 15, lines 30 and 31 in L D)
20 21 22	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-M in subsection 5 in the first line (page 15, line 32 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
23 24 25	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-M in subsection 5 in the 2nd line (page 15, line 33 in LD) by inserting after the following "regarding" the following 'federal and state'
26 27 28	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-M in subsection 5 in the 4th line (page 15, line 35 in L D) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
29 30	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C §850-M by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively
31 32	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-O by striking out all of subsection 1 (page 16, lines 4 to 22 in L D) and inserting the following
33	1. Membership; appointments. The authority consists of the following 15 members
34 35 36	A Eleven members appointed by the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters and to confirmation by the Senate
37 38	(1) One member with expertise in issues affecting labor and independent contractors,
39	(2) One employer with more than 50 employees,
40 41	(3) One member with expertise in issues related to paid family leave benefits and paid medical leave benefits,

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S P 800, L D 1964
1	(4) One employer with 50 or fewer employees,
2	(5) One member who is self-employed,
3	(6) One member who is an employer in the hospitality industry,
4 5	(7) One member with expertise in treating issues affecting maternity and postpartum care,
6 7	(8) One member with expertise in agriculture, a seasonal workforce or a heritage industry,
8	(9) One member with expertise in issues affecting elder care,
9 10	(10) One member with expertise in child care and early childhood development. and
11 12	(11) One member with expertise in employment law representing employee interests,
13	B The commissioner or the commissioner's designee,
14	C The controller or the controller's designee,
15 16	D The Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation or the commissioner's designee, and
17 18	E One employee of the Department of Health and Human Services with expertise in foster care and adoption designated by the commissioner '
19 20 21	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-O in subsection 5 in the first line (page 16, line 32 in L D) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
22 23 24	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-O in subsection 5 in the last line (page 16, line 33 in LD) by striking out the following " <u>Administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>and</u> '
25 26 27	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in §850-O in subsection 6 in the 3rd line (page 16, line 36 in LD) by striking out the following " <u>administrator</u> " and inserting the following ' <u>department</u> '
28 29	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6 -C in §850-O by striking out all of subsection 7 (page 16, line 39 and page 17, lines 1 to 12 in L D) and inserting the following
30	7. Duties. The authority
31 32	A Shall monitor the program on an ongoing basis to ensure the program's efficacy and performance, including its fiscal accountability and its financial solvency,
33 34	<u>B</u> Owes a fiduciary duty to the program and shall monitor and issue recommendations regarding the program's financial solvency.
35 36 37	C Shall propose changes to or advise the administrator on the laws, rules, administrator policies and other significant issues related to paid family leave benefits and paid medical leave benefits.
38 39	D Shall provide policy oversight and recommendations on the administration and structure of the program.

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1 2 3	E Shall review and make recommendations to the commissioner related to the relationship between the administrator and the employers and employees participating in the program and any education and outreach needs of the program,
4	F Shall solicit and consider public comment on the administration of the program,
5 6 7	G Shall consider and make recommendations on how to support employers with implementation of the program and maintain stability of the labor workforce for employers,
8 9	H May review all contracts regarding the program, including its administration and financial solvency, and
10 11 12 13	I May recommend suggested legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters may submit a bill to any regular or special session based on legislation suggested in accordance with this paragraph.'
14 15	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -P by striking out all of the first indented paragraph (page 17, lines 14 to 20 in L D) and inserting the following
16 17 18 19 20 21	'Contributions must begin January 1, 2025 to provide funds for the fund The administrator shall begin processing claims on May 1, 2026, except that, by February 1, 2026, the authority shall conduct an actuarial study to ensure the solvency of the fund in order to begin processing claims on May 1st If additional contributions are required based on the results of the actuarial study, the authority, through a majority vote, may require a one-time suspension of claims payments of no longer than 3 months.'
22 23 24	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850$ -Q in the first indented paragraph in the first line (page 17, line 26 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
25 26 27	Amend the bill in section 5 in sub-c 6-C in $\$850-Q$ in the first indented paragraph in the 2nd line (page 17, line 27 in L D) by striking out the following "administrator" and inserting the following 'department'
28	Amend the bill by inserting after section 6 the following
29 30 31	'Sec. 7. Initial appointments. The Governor shall appoint the initial members of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 850-O, subsection 1, paragraph A no later than January 1, 2024
32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42	Sec. 8. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before October 31, 2023, the State Controller shall transfer \$12,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Labor, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account to provide funds for the initial start-up costs to establish the paid family and medical leave benefits program. Sec. 9. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before July 31, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer \$13,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Labor. Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before July 31, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer \$13,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Labor. Paid Family
39 40	Sec. 9. Transfer from General Fund unappropriated surplus; Paid Famil and Medical Leave Insurance Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to SP 800, LD 1964		
1 2	and Medical Leave Insurance Fund, Other Special Reven for the initial start-up costs to establish the paid family an	ue Funds account to ad medical leave ber	o provide funds nefits program
3	Sec. 10. Appropriations and allocations. T	The following appr	opriations and
4	allocations are made		oprime une
5	ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	, DEPARTMENT	OF
6	Departments and Agencies - Statewide 0016		
7 8	Initiative Allocates ongoing funds for the State's share family and medical leave benefits effective January 1, 20	of the premium co 025	ntributions for
9	HIGHWAY FUND	2023-24	2024-25
10	All Other	\$0	\$272,075
11			
12	HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$272,075
13	Departments and Agencies - Statewide 0016		
14 15	Initiative Provides ongoing funds for the State's share of the premium contributions for family and medical leave benefits effective January 1, 2025		
16	GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
17	All Other	\$0	\$984,444
18		·	
19	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$984,444
20			
21	ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL		
22	SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
23	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
24 25	GENERAL FUND	\$0	£0.0 <i>1 111</i>
23 26	HIGHWAY FUND	\$0 \$0	\$984,444 \$272,075
20 27	monwar rond	40	<i>4272,073</i>
28	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$1,256,519
29	LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF		
30	Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund N453	3	
31	Initiative Allocates ongoing funds for one Public Service	Executive III positi	on, one Public
32	Service Manager III position, one Public Service Manag		
33	II positions and 2 Management Analyst II positions to a		
34	family and medical leave benefits program		_
35	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
36	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	8 000	8 000
37	Personal Services	\$500,000	\$859,500
38			
39	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$500,000	\$859,500
40	Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund N453	3	

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Initiative Allocates ongoing funds for 2 Tax Section Manager positions, one Labor
 Program Specialist position, one Senior Hearing Examiner position, 4 Accounting
 Associate II positions, 4 Accounting Specialist positions, 4 Hearing Officer positions, one
 Financial Analyst position, 3 Field Advisor positions and 3 Auditor II positions to
 administer the paid family and medical leave benefits program

5	administer the para family and medical leave benefits	program	
6	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
7	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0 000	23 000
8 9	Personal Services	\$0	\$1,786,800
10	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$1,786,800
11	Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund N4	153	
12 13 14	Initiative Allocates funds for the contracting, travel, operating costs associated with implementing and a medical leave benefits program		
15	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
16 17	All Other	\$11,315,000	\$10,015,000
18	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$11,315,000	\$10,015,000
19			
20	LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF		
21 22	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
23 24	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$11,815,000	\$12,661,300
25	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$11,815,000	\$12,661,300
26			
27	SECTION TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
28			
29	GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$984,444
30	HIGHWAY FUND	\$0	\$272,075
31 32	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$11,815,000	\$12,661,300
33	SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$11,815,000	\$13,917,819
34	1		

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

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee The amendment changes the
 title and makes the following changes to the bill

I It establishes minimum criteria for the evaluation of proposals if the Department of
 Labor uses a competitive bidding process to contract with a 3rd party for claims
 administration for the paid family and medical leave benefits program

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	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S P 800, L D 1964
1	2 It authorizes a tribal government to elect to participate in the program
2	3 It clarifies the definition of "wages "
3 4	4 It clarifies the definition of "qualifying exigency" related to a request for leave necessitated by a family member's active military service
5 6	5 It reduces the maximum amount of family leave and medical leave that an individual may take in a year from 16 weeks to 12 weeks
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	6 It reduces the maximum weekly benefit amount from 120% of the state average weekly wage to 100% of the state average weekly wage and provides that the determination of the weekly benefit amount is calculated in a manner to ensure that an individual receives wage replacement at a rate of 90% for the portion of the covered individual's average weekly wage that is equal to or less than 50% of the state average weekly wage that is more than 50% of the state average weekly wage that is more than 50% of the state average weekly wage that is more than 50% of the state average weekly wage up to the maximum weekly benefit
14 15 16	7 Except for an employee who has not been employed for at least 120 days, the amendment provides that an employee is entitled to the same position or an equivalent position upon return to work from family leave or medical leave
17 18 19 20	8 Absent an emergency, illness or other sudden necessity for taking leave, the amendment requires an employee to give reasonable notice to the employee's supervisor of the employee's intent to use leave and specifies that use of leave must be scheduled to prevent undue hardship on the employer
21 22 23	9 It makes changes to the membership of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority, provides that the authority owes a fiduciary duty to the program and requires the initial appointment of members no later than January 1, 2024
24 25	10 It makes technical changes regarding the administration and oversight of the program
26 27 28 29	11 It requires the State Controller to transfer \$12,000,000 on or before Octobel 31, 2023 and \$13,000,000 on or before July 31, 2024 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the department to provide funds for the initial start-up costs of the program It also adds an appropriations and allocations section
30	FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
31	(See attached)

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1964

LR 9(02)

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

> Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"(S-3%) Committee Labor and Housing Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$12,000,000	\$13,984,444	\$2,008,267	\$2,048,432
Highway Fund	\$0	\$272,075	\$555,033	\$566,134
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	\$984,444	\$2,008,267	\$2,048,4
Hıghway Fund	\$0	\$272,075	\$555,033	\$566,134
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$11,815,000	\$12,661,300	\$65,253,267	\$316,899,800
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$168,981,000	\$345,230,000	\$360,074,200
Transfers				
General Fund	(\$12,000,000)	(\$13,000,000)	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$12,000,000	\$13,000,000	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill implements a paid family and medical leave benefits program that entitles eligible individuals to take leave from employment for certain family and medical reasons and receive paid benefits during that leave. It authorizes the assessment of a premium based on employee wages, to begin on January 1, 2025, to finance the payment of benefits as well as administrative costs. The bill provides that the premium amount may not be more than a combined rate of 1 0% of wages and that the contribution rate required to be remitted by an employer from employee wages must be determined by rule. This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$984,444 and Highway Fund allocations of \$272,075 to the Department and Agencies - Statewide program within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services for the State's contributions effective January 1, 2025. This fiscal note assumes that the required contribution will be 1 0% and the State will contribute 50% of the cost.

This fiscal note utilizes information from the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program actuarial study dated August 2022, performed by Milliman, Inc Milliman, Inc prepared numerous program "design options" with varying assumptions on income replacement, waiting periods and benefit periods to estimate the contributions and benefit amounts that each option would generate Design option 7, which assumes 90% income replacement, a 7-day waiting period and a 12-week benefits period was determined to most closely reflect the provisions in this bill Based on this option, contributions of \$168,981,000 are estimated to be received in fiscal year 2024-25 Future contributions are estimated to be \$345,230,000 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$360,074,200 in fiscal year 2026-27 The amount of benefits to be paid to eligible employees, beginning May 1, 2026, are estimated to be \$47,716,667 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$298,400,000 in fiscal year 2026-27 Assuming these estimates are realized, the bill's required fund balance (annualized amount), defined as 140% of the previous year's expenditures beginning in calendar year 2028, is likely to be achieved under a maximum 1% combined contribution rate

The Department of Labor has estimated that it will cost approximately \$11,815,600 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$12,661,300 in fiscal year 2024-25 to establish and implement the paid family and medical leave program. This estimates assumes funding for 8 positions in fiscal year 2023-24 and an additional 23 positions in fiscal year 2024-25 as well as All Other costs to support the positions and system development and modifications for the collection of premiums. Because contributions to support the program will not begin until the spring of 2025, a one-time transfer of \$12,000,000 no later than October 31, 2023 and an additional transfer of \$13,000,000 no later than July 31, 2024 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund will be required. The department estimates it will require a total of 36 positions to fully administer the program beginning in fiscal year 2026-27 at a cost of 18,499,800.

As stated above, contributions received from the 1% assessment on wages reflect the cost to all employers and employees in the State whether private or public Although General Fund appropriations and Highway Fund allocations are included in this bill to fund State agencies' share of the required contribution as an employer, funding for other employers who may receive partial funding from the State, including but not limited to school administrative units, municipalities and public higher educational institutions, is not included or estimated at this time. Whether such entities will require additional state funding in the future cannot be determined at this time

Any family leave benefits and medical leave benefits paid under the program are not subject to the state income tax

Additional costs to the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to have a representative serve on the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources

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