MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

August 21, 1989 to August 22, 1989

and

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1990 to April 14, 1990

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS July 14, 1990

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Company Augusta, Maine 1990

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE

January 3, 1990 to April 14, 1990

crease was not granted to enhance the member's retirement benefit.

The executive director's decision may be appealed in accordance with section 17451.

The following items may not be considered in calculating salary or wage increases for the purposes of this paragraph:

- (1) Collectively bargained salary or wage increases pursuant to Title 26, chapter 9-A, 9-B or 12;
- (2) Salary or wage increases when similar increases are given at the same time to the majority of persons holding a similar position;
- (3) Job promotion;
- (4) Reclassification of position; or
- (5) Reallocation of position.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 801

H.P. 1655 - L.D. 2291

An Act to Protect Health Insurance Coverage for Citizens on Jury Duty

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

Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §1218, as amended by PL 1979, c. 663, §80, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§1218. Protection of jurors' employment and health insurance

An employer may not deprive an employee of employment or health insurance coverage, or threaten or otherwise coerce the employee with respect to loss of employment or health insurance coverage, because the employee receives a summons for jury service, responds to a summons for jury service, serves as a juror or attends court for prospective jury service.

Any employer who violates this section is guilty of a Class E crime.

If an employer discharges an employee or terminates the health insurance coverage of an employee in violation of this section, the employee may bring a civil action within 90 days for recovery of wages or health insurance benefits lost as a result of the violation and for an order requiring the reinstatement of the employee. Damages recoverable for wages may not exceed lost

wages for 6 weeks. If the employee prevails, the employee must be allowed a reasonable attorney's fee fixed by the court.

Sec. 2. 24 MRSA §2332-D is enacted to read:

§2332-D. Jury service

- 1. Prohibition. A nonprofit hospital or medical service organization that issues group health care contracts providing coverage for medical care to residents of this State may not terminate coverage for any person covered under those contracts because the person has been summonsed for or is engaged in jury service under Title 14, chapter 305, subchapter I-A.
- 2. Application. This section applies to all policies and any certificate executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State on or after January 1, 1991. For purposes of this section, all contracts are deemed to be renewed no later than the next yearly anniversary of the contract date.

Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §2848 is enacted to read:

§2848. Jury service

- 1. Prohibition. An insurer that issues group or blanket health care contracts providing coverage for medical care to residents of this State may not terminate coverage for any person covered under those contracts because the person has been summonsed for or is engaged in jury service under Title 14, chapter 305, subchapter I-A.
- 2. Application. This section applies to all policies and any certificate executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State on or after January 1, 1991. For purposes of this section, all contracts are deemed to be renewed no later than the next yearly anniversary of the contract date.
- **Sec. 4. Effective date.** Section 1 of this Act takes effect on January 1, 1991.

See title page for effective date, unless otherwise indicated.

CHAPTER 802

H.P. 1558 - L.D. 2158

An Act to Discourage Negative Campaign Practices

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA c. 13, sub-c. V is enacted to read: