

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGING, RETIREMENT AND VETERANS

JULY 1989

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Sen. Nancy Randall Clark
Sen. Pamela Lee Cahill

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* Denotes Chair

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

person's disability benefits are not terminated due to refusing a job which is not consistent with the person's prior compensation and benefits, training, education, experience and rehabilitation programs.

LD 980 An Act Regarding Retirement Benefits for Confidential State Employees LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
WEYMOUTH DELLERT MARSH HICKEY	LV/WD	

SUMMARY
This bill will increase the adjustment in retirement benefits provided to persons in confidential employment status with state-paid contributions who retired after June 30, 1983.

**LD 1330 An Act to Increase the Percentage of State Payment for Accident and Sickness or Health Insurance for Retired Teachers LV/WD
EMERGENCY**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
PEARSON O'DEA CLARK N	LV/WD	

SUMMARY
This bill provides for funds to increase the State's contribution for the group accident, sickness or health insurance on behalf of eligible retired teachers. The State presently provides 100% payment of group accident and sickness or health insurance on behalf of state employees. This bill provides parity between retired teachers and retired state employees by increasing the percentage of state payment of health insurance for retired teachers from 15% to 100%.

LD 1367 An Act to Equalize State Retiree Health Benefits INDEF PP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
CLARK N PERKINS CARROLL D LISNIK	OTP-AM	S-186

SUMMARY
State retirees who meet statutory criteria have been covered under the state health insurance plan for many years. An increasing number have been required to enroll under Medicare in recent years. This has resulted in less coverage for these retirees because the Medicare plan has greater out-of-pocket expenses. This bill requires the State to pay Medicare premiums and provide supplemental insurance to equalize Medicare benefits with the state plan.

Committee Amendment "A" eliminates the requirement that the Maine State Retirement System pay for a supplemental group policy for Medicare eligible retirees to make their deductions and coverages equal to non-Medicare retirees.

LD 1380 An Act Concerning Observance of Veterans' Commemoration Days

PUBLIC 211

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
RICHARD ERWIN E PARADIS E	OTP-AM	H-249

SUMMARY

This bill requires that bells owned by municipalities be rung at 11:00 a.m. on Veterans Day, and requires municipal officers to request others to ring bells on Veterans Day and to properly coordinate public and private efforts in this regard.

Committee Amendment "A" clarifies the wording of existing law regarding the display of flags on Memorial Day.

LD 1444 An Act to Expand the Maine State Retirement System for Reemployed Individuals

LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
GILL MACOMBER	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill requires the State to recognize creditable service earned by an employee of the Maine Turnpike Authority who is reemployed by the State in another position.

LD 1484 An Act to Fund the Maine State Retirement System for Certain Employees Previously Covered by the County Retirement System

PUBLIC 399

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
CONLEY GURNEY BRANNIGAN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-372 MAJ REP

SUMMARY

There are as many as 20 employees who work or worked in various counties around the State who have never had their county retirement time converted to the state system for inclusion with their state time. Most of the employees work in the various Superior Courts around the State and never had their time converted along with the District Court employees who were absorbed into the state retirement system in the early 1970's. This bill eliminates this situation.

Committee Amendment "A" clarifies that the provisions of the bill will not be in conflict with another section of law which requires participating local districts to agree to legislative changes.