

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGING, RETIREMENT AND VETERANS

AUGUST 1991

Staff:

Julie S. Jones, Principal Analyst
John B. Knox, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670

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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

KAREN L. HRUBY
JILL IPPOLITI
JOHN B. KNOX
PATRICK NORTON
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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

LD 1815 An Act to Authorize Employees of a Participating Local District to Participate in a Qualified Alternative Pension Plan

PUBLIC 300

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MANNING JALBERT HANDY	OTP	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill is to permit employees of participating local districts who are not subject to the laws governing municipal public employees labor relations to choose whether or not to be members of the Maine State Retirement System as part of the defined benefit plan and to participate in the defined contribution plan offered under the participating local district consolidated plan. The bill also provides for use of benefit provisions from the chapter relating to state employees and teachers in the participating local district consolidated plan.

LD 1864 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Maine Veterans Small Business Loans to Include Veterans who Served in the Persian Gulf

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MARTIN J PRAY JALBERT KERR	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill specifies that the term "veteran" includes persons who served in the war in the Persian Gulf.

LD 1935 An Act to Change the State Payment for Health Insurance Benefits for New State Employees with Less than 10 Years of Service and Provide for a Study of Retirement Benefits Provided to New Employees (Pursuant to Joint Order SP681)

**PUBLIC 527
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
		H-648 JALBERT S-380 CLARK N

SUMMARY

This bill was reported by the majority of the Joint Standing Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans pursuant to Joint Order. The bill reduces the share paid by the State for group health insurance premiums for retirees who were first employed by the State after July 1, 1991 and who work for the State for less than 10 years before retiring. The amount of the reduction is based on the number of years that the retiree worked for the State. The bill also requires a study of alternative retirement benefits that could be provided to new state employees.

House Amendment "A" (H-648) clarifies the role of the Legislative Council in direction of the study and removes authority for the Joint Standing Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans to report out legislation.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-380) to House Amendment "A" changes the reporting date to November 1, 1991.

See LD 1936.

LD 1936	An Act to Change the State Payment for Health Insurance Benefits for New State Employees with Less than 10 Years of Service, Provide for a Study of Retirement Benefits Provided to New Employees and Reserve the Right to Apply Future Changes to Employees Hired after July 1, 1991 (Pursuant to Joint Order SP681)	DIED BETWEEN BODIES
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SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill was reported by a minority of the members of the Joint Standing Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans. The bill reduces the share paid by the State for group health insurance premiums for retirees who were first employed by the State after July 1, 1991 and who work for the State for less than 10 years before retiring. The amount of the reduction is based on the number of years that the retiree worked for the State. The bill also provides for a study of alternative retirements that could be provided to new state employees and reserves the right to make any changes resulting from the study applicable to persons first employed by the State after July 1, 1991.

See LD 1935.

LD 1937	An Act to Amend the Disability Laws Applicable to Members of the Maine Judicial Retirement System	CARRIED OVER
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SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GAUVREAU		
PARADIS P		

SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill is to amend the judicial retirement laws to reduce the amount of time that must pass before the condition of a recipient of a disability retirement benefit is reviewed for continued payment of the benefit. This will treat judges the way other state employees are currently treated under retirement laws.

LD 1961	An Act to Make Changes to the Laws Governing the Maine State Retirement System (Reported pursuant to HP 51 from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs)	INDEF PP
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SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill increases the employee contributions to the Maine State Retirement System by 1.15% of compensation for all members of the Maine State Retirement System, the Maine Judicial Retirement System and the Maine Legislative Retirement System. The bill also makes retirement benefit plan changes for persons with less than 10 years of creditable service on July 1, 1991 by increasing the normal retirement age to 62 years and changing the method of reduction of benefits for early retirement.