

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGING, RETIREMENT AND VETERANS

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</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.

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

4693NRG

LD 426 An Act to Provide Fully Paid Health Insurance Benefits to Retired Teachers DIED BETWEEN BODIES

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PEARSON	OTP-AM MAJ	
	ONTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill would have provided for funds to increase the State's contribution for group accident, sickness or health insurance on behalf of eligible retired teachers from 25% of the premium to 100%, as is provided for state employees. The majority report of the committee would have increased the State's contribution from 25% to 30% of the premium.

LD 599 An Act to Extend the Retirement Incentive Option for Two Years PUBLIC 159

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LIPMAN	OTP-AM MAJ	H-220
	ONTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill expands the retirement incentive option to state employees for fiscal years 1992-93 and 1993-94. The bill has an application section that provides that a state employee who reached normal retirement age after the close of fiscal year 1991-92 and on or before the effective date of the bill is eligible for that option if the employee selects the option within 3 months of the effective date of the bill.

The majority report of the Committee (H-220) sets the retired state employee's salary at 70%, rather than 80% of salary at termination, and requires the state to continue contributions to the Maine State Retirement System for the unfunded liability, retiree health care and administrative costs.

LD 602 An Act Concerning Funding of the Maine State Retirement System ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WENTWORTH	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required the Board of Trustees of the Maine State Retirement System to place the unfunded liability for the old teacher retirement system on a 27-year amortization schedule. The bill also directed the Board of Trustees of the Maine State Retirement System to continue the interest-rate assumption at 8.87% for fiscal year 1993-94 and fiscal year 1994-95.

LD 622 An Act to Repeal the Laws Allowing Legislators to Participate in the Maine Legislative Retirement System and to Receive State Employee Benefits ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HARRIMAN	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have prohibited the State from contributing to benefits for Legislators on or after December 1, 1993. Legislators could still participate in the Maine State Retirement System health plan by paying the full premium and the State would have to pay a portion of the premium for an otherwise eligible retiree as long as that Legislator retires before December 1, 1993 or is eligible for the payment due to other state service. This bill would have retained all of the provisions of the Maine Legislative Retirement System except that creditable service could not be earned for service after November 30, 1993. Death benefits after November 30, 1993 are limited to the Legislator's accumulated contributions but would be unchanged for a former Legislator receiving a disability retirement allowance as of December 1, 1993. A cost-of-living adjustment may not be made to any legislative retirement allowance after November 30, 1993.

LD 655 An Act Concerning Service-related Retirement for Certain Teachers ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
YOUNG ONTP
PARADIS J

SUMMARY

This bill would have enabled a teacher under the Maine State Retirement System who becomes unemployed because of a military base closure to become eligible for a service retirement benefit after 20 years of service.

LD 872 An Act to Update and Modify the Appointment Process to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
HEINO ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill would have altered the geographical distribution required for the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes. The bill also required that the board, in adopting rules, seek comments and information from members of veterans' organizations.

LD 922 An Act to Clarify the Definition of Teacher under the Laws of the Maine State Retirement System PUBLIC 463

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
PFEIFFER OTP-AM H-369
S-362 PEARSON

SUMMARY

This bill ensures that there is no reduction of earnable compensation and creditable service for teachers affected by the Maine Retirement System for released time spent performing the part-time duties of the office of president of a certified bargaining agent. The released time provision must be negotiated as part of a collective bargaining agreement and appropriate withholdings must be made to the Maine State Retirement System by the school administrative unit on the part-time president's earnings.