

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND HOUSING**

July 2022

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LD 1922 An Act To Amend Certain Laws Pertaining to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 548 makes following changes to the laws governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System:

1. It removes the provision that provides that the service retirement benefit of a judge ceases upon the return to service as a judge and that a judge returned to service continues to earn credit toward retirement;
2. It corrects a cross-reference in the law that governs ordinary death benefits for members in the Judicial Retirement Program;
3. It clarifies the definition of “qualifying member” for the Judicial Retirement Program to include retirees who receive a disability retirement benefit and change to service retirement;
4. It clarifies that actuarial equivalent calculations are based on the discount rate assumption adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System;
5. It changes references to “school management and leadership center” to “education service center” in accordance with changes made in Public Law 2019, chapter 219;
6. It clarifies jurisdiction over administrative decisions on membership;
7. It specifies the types of retirement plans that the board of trustees may establish and offer;
8. It makes changes to language regarding disability retirement-related information that is reported by the system annually to the Legislature;
9. It aligns the provisions for automatic refunds on inactive accounts with federal law;
10. It deletes a cross-reference to inapplicable federal law in the military service credit purchase provision;
11. It removes the ability for certain retired participating local district members who are restored to service to reenter the plan in order to bring the provisions into compliance with federal law;
12. It clarifies the required minimum contribution rate that participating local district employees must contribute to a defined contribution or deferred compensation plan in order for it to be considered a qualified replacement plan;
13. It permits the Chief Executive Officer of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to adopt a remote meeting policy for the Participating Local District Advisory Committee;

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14. It incorporates a change in title from Executive Director of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to Chief Executive Officer of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and directs the Revisor of Statutes to incorporate this change throughout the statutes;
15. It removes obsolete, unclear or inconsistent language;
16. It specifies that one member of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System may be appointed by the Governor from a list of names of retirees provided by the Maine Association of Retirees;
17. It requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to provide in its annual report to the Legislature survey data measuring satisfaction and experience of both retirement system members and retirement system employees; and
18. It provides that certain members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System whose positions are moved from one special retirement plan to another special retirement plan are eligible for retirement under the former special plan if the members have met the retirement qualifications of the former special plan.

LD 1925 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 9: Rules Governing Administrative Civil Money Penalties for Labor Law Violations, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 157 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 9: Rules Governing Administrative Civil Money Penalties for Labor Law Violations, a major substantive rule of the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards.

LD 1961 An Act To Help Alleviate Maine's Housing Shortage and Change the Membership of the Maine State Housing Authority

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 657 includes among the state goals for actions of all state and municipal agencies that affect natural resource management, land use and development the goals of promoting housing choice and economic diversity in housing that is affordable to low-income and moderate-income households and addressing disparities in access to educational, occupational and other opportunities. It also changes the membership of the Maine State Housing Authority and clarifies that appointments to the Maine State Housing Authority and the appointment of the director of the authority are subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters.