

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

—
S.P. 794 - L.D. 1986

An Act to Fund Collective Bargaining Agreements with Judicial Branch Employees

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Judicial Department is in the process of renegotiating collective bargaining agreements with the 4 bargaining units representing Judicial Department employees; and

Whereas, this legislation authorizes funding of any agreements ratified by December 31, 2025; and

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the Legislature to act upon those portions of collective bargaining agreements negotiated by the judicial branch that require legislative action; and

Whereas, the judicial branch and the Legislature share a desire to address in a timely manner the needs of certain state employees excluded from collective bargaining units; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Adjustment of salary schedules for fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27. The salaries and stipends for the Judicial Department employees in the administrative services bargaining unit, the supervisory services bargaining unit, the law enforcement bargaining unit and the professional services bargaining unit and employees referred to in section 2 must be adjusted consistent with the terms of any agreements ratified by December 31, 2025.

Sec. 2. Other employees; similar and equitable treatment. The State Court Administrator is authorized to grant similar and equitable treatment consistent with this Act for employees of the Judicial Department who are excluded from collective bargaining

pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1282, subsection 5, paragraphs C, D, E and F.

Sec. 3. Costs to General Fund. Costs to the General Fund must be provided in the Salary Plan program, General Fund account in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services up to a \$10,000,000.00 combined total for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 to implement the economic terms of the collective bargaining agreements made between the Judicial Department and the Maine Service Employees Association for the administrative services bargaining unit, the supervisory services bargaining unit and the professional services bargaining unit; made between the Judicial Department and the Maine State Law Enforcement Association for the law enforcement bargaining unit; and for the costs of those Judicial Department employees referred to in section 2 who are excluded from collective bargaining pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1282, subsection 5, paragraphs C, D, E and F.

Sec. 4. Contingent effective date. This Act takes effect only upon the ratification by December 31, 2025 of collective bargaining agreements made between the Judicial Department and the Maine Service Employees Association for the administrative services bargaining unit, the supervisory services bargaining unit and the professional services bargaining unit and between the Judicial Department and the Maine State Law Enforcement Association for the law enforcement bargaining unit.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.