



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 111

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H.P. 79

House of Representatives, January 9, 2023

**An Act Requiring the State to Pay a Share of a Retired State  
Employee's or Retired Teacher's Premium for Medicare Part B  
Under Medicare Advantage**

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Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative SHAGOURY of Hallowell.  
Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and  
Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, BELL of Yarmouth, BRIDGEO of Augusta,  
HASENFUS of Readfield, LaROCHELLE of Augusta, MADIGAN of Waterville, MONTELL  
of Gardiner, WHITE of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7, ¶M** is enacted to read:

3 M. Beginning January 1, 2024, the State, through the commission, shall pay a share of  
4 a retiree's Medicare Part B premium under the Medicare Advantage plan identified and  
5 offered by the commission and available to the retiree as authorized by the commission,  
6 if the retiree's base annual state pension is less than \$75,000, adjusted for inflation, and  
7 the retiree is not eligible for federally approved Medicaid services, as follows.

8 (1) For a retiree whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024  
9 is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum amount of the retirement  
10 benefits that are subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under section 17806 being  
11 paid to retired state employees, the State shall pay 100% of the premium.

12 (2) For a retiree whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024  
13 is projected to be greater than the maximum amount of the retirement benefits that  
14 are subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under section 17806 being paid to  
15 retired state employees and less than or equal to \$34,000, adjusted for inflation, the  
16 State shall pay 75% of the premium.

17 (3) For a retiree whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024  
18 is projected to be greater than \$34,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than or equal  
19 to \$44,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 60% of the premium.

20 (4) For a retiree whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024  
21 is projected to be greater than \$44,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than or equal  
22 to \$54,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 30% of the premium.

23 (5) For a retiree whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024  
24 is projected to be greater than \$54,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than or equal  
25 to \$64,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 15% of the premium.

26 (6) For a retiree whose base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024  
27 is projected to be greater than \$64,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than  
28 \$75,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 10% of the premium.

29 This paragraph does not apply to state retirees who are eligible for payment of 100%  
30 of their Medicare Part B premium due to their eligibility for Medicare arising through  
31 an agreement between the commission and the United States Department of Health and  
32 Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

33 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13451, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

34 **6. Payment by State for Medicare Part B under Medicare Advantage.** Beginning  
35 July 1, 2024, the State shall pay a share of a retired teacher's Medicare Part B premium  
36 under the Medicare Advantage plan administered by the Maine Education Association  
37 benefits trust, if the retired teacher's base annual pension benefit is less than \$75,000,  
38 adjusted for inflation, and the retired teacher is not eligible for federally approved Medicaid  
39 services, as follows.

40 A. For a retired teacher whose base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024  
41 is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum amount of the retirement benefits

1 subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under Title 5, section 17806 being paid to  
2 retired teachers, the State shall pay 100% of the premium.

3 B. For a retired teacher whose base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024  
4 is projected to be greater than the maximum amount of the retirement benefits subject  
5 to the cost-of-living adjustment under Title 5, section 17806 being paid to retired  
6 teachers and less than or equal to \$34,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay  
7 75% of the premium.

8 C. For a retired teacher whose base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024  
9 is projected to be greater than \$34,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than or equal to  
10 \$44,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 60% of the premium.

11 D. For a retired teacher whose base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024  
12 is projected to be greater than \$44,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than or equal to  
13 \$54,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 30% of the premium.

14 E. For a retired teacher whose base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024  
15 is projected to be greater than \$54,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than or equal to  
16 \$64,000, adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 15% of the premium.

17 F. For a retired teacher whose base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024  
18 is projected to be greater than \$64,000, adjusted for inflation, and less than \$75,000,  
19 adjusted for inflation, the State shall pay 10% of the premium.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill requires the State to pay a share of a retired state employee's or retired teacher's  
22 Medicare Part B premium under a Medicare Advantage plan offered by the State if the  
23 retired state employee or retired teacher meets certain conditions.