



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1219

S.P. 508

In Senate, March 20, 2025

**An Act to Increase State Funding for the Campuses of the
University of Maine System and to Raise the Minimum Hourly
Wage for Employees of the System**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor and
Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, CURRY of Waldo, PIERCE of Cumberland,
RAFFERTY of York, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, TEPLER of Sagadahoc,
Representatives: BRIDGEO of Augusta, DODGE of Belfast.

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

3 **Whereas,** additional funding to the University of Maine System is necessary for the
4 beginning of fiscal year 2025-26, which will begin before the 90-day period expires; and

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

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

10 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §10901, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

11 **1-A. Peer institution.** "Peer institution" means a postsecondary education institution
12 that is used for comparative analysis and benchmarking of institutional qualities as
13 determined by the trustees for each campus of the university.

14 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §10912** is enacted to read:

15 **§10912. Campus funding levels; hourly employee minimum wage**

16 **1. Fiscal year 2026-27 funding level.** Beginning July 1, 2026, for the 2026-27 fiscal
17 year, each campus of the university must be funded at no less than 95% of the funding that
18 the campus's peer institution receives from the peer institution's state on a per student basis.
19 The university, in calculating the peer institution's funding, shall use the most recent data
20 available.

21 **2. Fiscal year 2027-28 funding level.** Beginning July 1, 2027, for the 2027-28 fiscal
22 year, each campus of the university must be funded at no less than 100% of the funding
23 that the campus's peer institution receives from the peer institution's state on a per student
24 basis. The university, in calculating the peer institution's funding, shall use the most recent
25 data available.

26 **3. Minimum wage to hourly employees.** Beginning July 1, 2025, the minimum hourly
27 wage at the university is equal to 125% of the minimum hourly wage established in Title
28 26, section 664, subsection 1.

29 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
30 allocations are made.

31 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

32 **Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031**

33 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to support a 6% increase in funding for fiscal year
34 2025-26 and an additional 4% increase in funding for fiscal year 2026-27 to support the
35 continuation of current University of Maine System operations.

36	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
37	All Other	\$14,371,274	\$24,526,974
38			
39	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$14,371,274	\$24,526,974

