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Date: (Filing No. S-)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to S.P. 105, L.D. 205, “An Act to Update the Reimbursement for Travel-related Expenses Incurred as a Result of the Performance of Legislative Duties”

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §2, first ¶, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. QQQQ, §1, is further amended to read:

Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives, beginning with the first Wednesday of December 2000 and thereafter, is entitled to \$10,815 in the first year and \$7,725 in the 2nd year of each biennium, except that if a Legislator who is a recipient of retirement benefits from the federal Social Security Administration files a written request with the Executive Director of the Legislative Council within one week after the biennium commences, the Legislator is entitled to \$9,270 in each year of the biennium. Each member of the Senate and the House of Representatives must receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative salary, except that the percentage increase may not exceed 5% in any year, and except that the percentage increase may not exceed 3% beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Beginning December 1, 2001, the salary for each legislative session must be adjusted each December 1st by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the most recently concluded fiscal year; except that ~~no~~ a member of the Senate or the House of Representatives may not receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative salary for the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature, and except that ~~no~~ a member of the Senate or the House of Representatives may not receive a cost-of-living adjustment in annual legislative salary for the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature and the First Regular Session and the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, and any percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2013 may not be applied to the base salary. In addition, each Legislator is entitled to be paid mileage for travel at each legislative session ~~once each week at the same rate per mile~~ to and from that Legislator's place of abode ~~as state employees receive at a rate of 55¢ per mile or the federal standard mileage rate, whichever is lower~~, the mileage to be determined by the most reasonable direct route, except that Legislators may be reimbursed for tolls paid for travel on the Maine Turnpike as long as they have a receipt for payment of the tolls, such tolls to be reimbursed when Legislators use the Maine Turnpike in traveling to and from sessions of the

SENATE AMENDMENT

1 Legislature or in performance of duly authorized committee assignments. Each Legislator
2 is entitled to mileage on the first day of the session, and those amounts of salary and
3 expenses at such times as the Legislature may determine during the session, and the balance
4 at the end of the session.'

5 Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

6 '**Sec. 3. 3 MRSA §2, 4th ¶**, as corrected by RR 2001, c. 2, Pt. A, §1, is amended to
7 read:

8 Except as provided in this section, each member of the Senate and House of
9 Representatives is entitled to the travel-related expenses of a meal allowance in the amount
10 of ~~\$32~~ \$50 and a housing allowance in the amount of ~~\$38~~ \$70 for each day in attendance
11 at sessions of the Legislature and for each day the member occupies overnight
12 accommodations away from home either immediately preceding or immediately following
13 attendance at daily sessions of the Legislature. The presiding officers may establish
14 reasonable policies regarding allowances for meals and overnight accommodations for the
15 day immediately preceding the session, which may include policies regarding whether an
16 allowance is paid, whether the full amount or a portion of the statutory allowance is paid
17 and whether receipts are required. In lieu of the meal and housing allowance, each member
18 is entitled to a daily meal allowance in the amount of ~~\$32~~ \$50 and actual daily mileage
19 ~~allowances in an amount up to but not exceeding \$38 per day.~~ Each member of the Senate
20 also receives an annual allowance for constituent services in the amount of \$2,000, \$1,300
21 in January and \$700 in the month following adjournment of the regular session. Each
22 member of the House of Representatives also receives an annual allowance for constituent
23 services in the amount of \$1,500, \$1,005 in January and \$495 in the month following
24 adjournment of the regular session. Notwithstanding this section, during the first regular
25 session of each legislative biennium, a member of the Senate or the House of
26 Representatives may elect to receive the first payment of the annual allowance for
27 constituent services in December following convening of the Legislature by notifying the
28 Executive Director of the Legislative Council in the manner prescribed by the executive
29 director. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall inform Legislators of the
30 choice available for payment of the allowance for constituent services in the first year of
31 the legislative biennium and of any tax implications associated with exercising that choice.'

32 Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
33 section number to read consecutively.

34 SUMMARY

35 This amendment removes the cap on the reimbursement for mileage.

36 **SPONSORED BY:** _____

37 **(President JACKSON, T.)**

38 **COUNTY: Aroostook**