

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 824

S.P. 235

In Senate, March 5, 2021

An Act To Extend the Protections Provided to State Employees upon the Expiration of Labor Contracts to Other Public Sector Employees

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

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CLAXTON of Androscoggin.

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §976 is enacted to read:

§976. Obligations during interim between contracts

During the interim after the expiration of a collective bargaining agreement and before the effective date of any subsequent collective bargaining agreement, public employees covered by the expired collective bargaining agreement remain eligible for and must receive step increases in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the expired collective bargaining agreement.

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §1038 is enacted to read:

§1038. Obligations during interim between contracts

During the interim after the expiration of a collective bargaining agreement and before the effective date of any subsequent collective bargaining agreement, regular employees covered by the expired collective bargaining agreement remain eligible for and must receive step increases in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the expired collective bargaining agreement.

Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §1296 is enacted to read:

§1296. Obligations during interim between contracts

During the interim after the expiration of a collective bargaining agreement and before the effective date of any subsequent collective bargaining agreement, judicial employees covered by the expired collective bargaining agreement remain eligible for and must receive merit or step increases in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the expired collective bargaining agreement.

23 SUMMARY

This bill provides the same protections to municipal, judicial and public higher education employees that are provided to state employees upon the expiration of labor contracts by requiring that, during an interim between the expiration of a public employee collective bargaining agreement and before the effective date of any subsequent collective bargaining agreement, those employees covered by the expired collective bargaining agreement remain eligible for and must receive merit or step increases in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the expired collective bargaining agreement.