

## **132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document		No. 1872

H.P. 1243

House of Representatives, May 5, 2025

## An Act to Reinvest in the Pension Funds of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

Received by the Clerk of the House on May 1, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative SKOLD of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, GATTINE of Westbrook, HASENFUS of Readfield, ROEDER of Bangor, Senators: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, PIERCE of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
2	Sec. 1. 5 MRSA c. 421, sub-c. 4, art. 10 is enacted to read:
3	ARTICLE 10
4	<b>RETIREMENT IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>
5	<u>§17445. Retirement Improvement Fund</u>
6 7 8	<b>1. Establishment of fund.</b> The Retirement Improvement Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within and administered by the retirement system as an interest-bearing, nonlapsing fund for the payment of retirement benefit improvements.
9 10 11 12 13	2. Content of fund. The fund consists of all money transferred to the fund under this section and other money made available to the fund. For fiscal years 2028-29, 2029-30, 2030-31 and 2031-32, within 30 days of the beginning of each fiscal year, the State Controller shall transfer to the fund from the General Fund an amount calculated under subsection 3.
14 15 16 17	<u>3. Calculation of transfer amount</u> . The amount required to be transferred to the fund under subsection 2 is equal to the difference between the amount of the payments made toward the obligation for the unfunded actuarial liability in the year in which the amount is transferred and the amount of those payments for fiscal year 2027-28.
18 19 20 21 22 23	<b>4.</b> Use of fund. Money in the fund must be used to pay for retirement benefit improvements. Whenever the fund has sufficient capital to pay for an increase in the amount of at least \$1,000 on the benefit base on which the annual cost-of-living adjustment is applied pursuant to section 17806, subsection 1, paragraph A, for all beneficiaries in the retirement system, that increase must be applied but only until the benefit base reaches \$40,000.
24 25 26 27	<b>5. Reporting.</b> By March 1st of 2029, 2030, 2031 and 2032, the retirement system shall make a report regarding implementation of this section to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters that includes the following information for that fiscal year and the prior 3 fiscal years:
28	A. The amount of money transferred to the fund pursuant to subsection 2;
29 30	B. The total increases made to the benefit base on which the annual cost-of-living adjustment must be applied in accordance with subsection 4;
31 32	C. The amount of payment made or required to be made toward the obligation for the unfunded actuarial liability; and
33	D. The balance in the fund.
34	SUMMARY
35 36 37 38	This bill requires that, for fiscal years 2028-29, 2029-30, 2030-31 and 2031-32, General Fund revenue be transferred annually to a nonlapsing fund to be used to pay for retirement benefit improvements for retired state employees and teachers and their beneficiaries.