



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 1402

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S.P. 480

In Senate, April 11, 2017

### An Act Regarding Payroll Deductions

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Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §637** is enacted to read:

3 **§637. Public employee payroll deductions for certain insurance, employee benefits**  
4 **or contributions to political action committees**

5 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the  
6 following terms have the following meanings.

7 **A. "Political action committee"** has the same meaning as in Title 21-A, section 1052,  
8 subsection 5.

9 **B. "Public employee"** means an employee of a public employer.

10 **C. "Public employer"** means a state, county or municipal government entity that is a  
11 public employer as that term is defined in section 962, subsection 7 and section  
12 979-A, subsection 5.

13 **2. Employee authorization.** A public employee may authorize in writing a payroll  
14 deduction for:

15 **A. The cost or partial cost of insurance or an employee benefit offered by the**  
16 **employee's bargaining agent; or**

17 **B. A contribution to a political action committee.**

18 **3. Payroll deduction.** A public employer shall deduct funds from a public  
19 employee's pay as authorized by the employee in accordance with subsection 2 and  
20 transmit those funds to the recipient specified by the employee.

21 **4. No charge.** A public employer may not charge a fee for a deduction made  
22 pursuant to this section.

23 **5. Withdraw authorization.** An employee may withdraw the employee's  
24 authorization under subsection 2 by providing 60 days written notice of the withdrawal to  
25 the public employer.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill authorizes public employees to authorize payroll deductions for the cost of  
28 insurance or an employee benefit offered by the employee's bargaining agent or for a  
29 contribution to a political action committee. The bill requires public employers to deduct  
30 funds from a public employee's pay as authorized by the employee and transmit those  
31 funds to the specified recipient.