



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 2019

S.P. 709

In Senate, January 14, 2020

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

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing 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 CLAXTON of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative CARNEY of Cape Elizabeth and
Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, CHENETTE of York, MILLETT of Cumberland.

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

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

3 **§976. Obligations during interim between contracts**

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

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

10 **§1038. Obligations during interim between contracts**

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

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

17 **§1296. Obligations during interim between contracts**

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

23 **SUMMARY**

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