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Date: (Filing No. H-)

LABOR AND HOUSING

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 79, L.D. 111, “An Act Requiring the State to Pay a Share of a Retired State Employee's or Retired Teacher's Premium for Medicare Part B Under Medicare Advantage”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§7, ¶M is enacted to read:

M. Beginning January 1, 2024, the State, through the commission, shall pay 100% of a retiree's Medicare Part B premium under the Medicare Advantage plan identified and offered by the commission and available to the retiree as authorized by the commission if:

- (1) The retiree's base annual state pension is less than \$75,000, adjusted for inflation;
- (2) The retiree is not eligible for federally approved Medicaid services; and
- (3) The retiree has a base annual state pension benefit on or after January 1, 2024 that is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum amount of the retirement benefits that are subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under section 17806 being paid to retired state employees.

This paragraph does not apply to state retirees who are eligible for payment of 100% of their Medicare Part B premium due to their eligibility for Medicare arising through an agreement between the commission and the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13451, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Payment by State for Medicare Part B under Medicare Advantage. Beginning July 1, 2024, the State shall pay 100% of a retired teacher's Medicare Part B premium under the Medicare Advantage plan administered by the Maine Education Association benefits trust if:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 A. The retired teacher's base annual pension benefit is less than \$75,000, adjusted for
2 inflation;

3 B. The retired teacher is not eligible for federally approved Medicaid services; and

4 C. The retired teacher has a base annual state pension benefit on or after July 1, 2024
5 that is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum amount of the retirement
6 benefits subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under Title 5, section 17806 being paid
7 to retired teachers.

8 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
9 allocations are made.

10 **ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

11 **Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455**

12 Initiative: Appropriates funds to pay 100% of the Medicare Part B premium for certain
13 retired state employees and certain retired teachers.

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 14 GENERAL FUND | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
| 15 All Other | \$2,922,193 | \$10,210,549 |
| 16 | | |
| 17 GENERAL FUND TOTAL | <u>\$2,922,193</u> | <u>\$10,210,549</u> |

18 '

19 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
20 number to read consecutively.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This amendment provides that the State must pay 100% of a retired state employee's
23 or a retired teacher's Medicare Part B premium under the Medicare Advantage plan offered
24 by the State if the retiree's base annual pension benefit is less than \$75,000, adjusted for
25 inflation, if the retiree is not eligible for Medicaid services and if the base annual pension
26 benefit on or after January 1, 2024 is projected to be less than or equal to the maximum
27 amount of the retirement benefits that are subject to the cost-of-living adjustment under the
28 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 17806.

29 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

30 **(See attached)**