

LD 328 - An Act Requiring the State to Pay a Retired State Employee's or Retired Teacher's Premium for Medicare Part B Under Medicare Advantage

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, members of the Labor Committee, I'm Carl Edwards, retired diver from MaineDOT. I am here on my own time to speak in support of LD 328 and LD 467.

After 38 years of proud service, I retired at the age of 63, under the old retirement system, hoping to meet that sweet spot of retiring old enough to acquire reasonable benefits, yet young enough to enjoy life a bit.

I certainly expected a substantial cut in income from working full time to retirement, but I was surprised by the many monthly payments of needed additional health coverage such as dental & vision that I now must have. Admittedly, I didn't know, nor anyone mentioned, the required Medicare Part B that I will be paying at the current rate of \$185 per month when turning 65 this year.

While it may be a small token amount to some, it is a grocery bill to me and my family.

I strongly urge you to please support LD 328 and LD 467.

Respectfully,

Carl Edwards, retired MaineDOT