



State of Maine Judicial Branch
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**Judicial Branch Testimony Neither for nor Against LD 794, An Act to Include
Judicial Marshals in the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement.**

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, my name is Tom Hild, and I am the Chief of Finance and Administration for the Maine Judicial Branch. I would like to provide the following testimony.

The Maine Judicial Branch supports initiatives that would benefit our Deputy Judicial Marshals (DJMs). Indeed, we have submitted a budget initiative for a market reallocation to increase pay acknowledging that recruitment and retention of qualified personnel has been challenging in recent history. However, it is not clear that the bill as proposed would be beneficial to all our DJMs. For example, the retirement contribution is higher than that under the current plan. In addition, the bill purports to shift all DJMs under the 1998 Special Plan. The MJB cannot assess the operational impact without more information. At a minimum we would urge that a review as to impact be completed before a decision of this magnitude is reached.

Thank you for your consideration.