

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Protect Teacher Retirement Income

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17001, sub-§4, ¶A, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt. SSS, §1, is further amended to read:

A. The average annual rate of earnable compensation of a member during the 3 years of creditable service as an employee in Maine, not necessarily consecutive, in which the member's annual rate of earnable compensation is highest. However, if a member is subject to a temporary layoff or other time off without pay as a result of a Governor's Executive Order, time off without pay or loss of pay pursuant to the agreements of February 15, 1991, October 23, 1991 and June 11, 1993 between the Executive Department and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 93, time off without pay pursuant to the agreement of June 11, 1993 between the Executive Department and the Maine State Employees Association, days off without pay as authorized by legislative action or days off without pay resulting from any executive order declaring or continuing a state of emergency relating to the lack of an enacted budget document for fiscal years ending June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993, or, if a member elects to make the payments as set forth in section 17704B, as a result of days off without pay or for days worked for which the level of pay is reduced as the result of the freezing of merit pay and longevity pay as authorized by legislative action, by the State Court Administrator or from executive order for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002, July 1, 2009 or July 1, 2010, or a combination thereof, or, if a member is subject to days off without pay, not to exceed 10 days in each fiscal year ending June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993, as a result of actions taken by local school administrative units to offset school subsidy reductions, or, if a member is subject to days off without pay during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 or July 1, 2010, as a result of actions taken by a local school administrative unit and the member elects to make the payments as set forth in section 17704B or, notwithstanding section 18202, as a result of actions of a participating local district to offset reductions in municipal revenue sharing or a combination thereof, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993, the 3-year average final compensation must be determined as if the member had not been temporarily laid off, reduced in pay or provided days off without pay; or

SUMMARY

This bill allows teachers covered by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to purchase time attributable to days off without pay as a result of budget decisions made by local school administrative units for fiscal years ending June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011. This bill provides to teachers the same benefits available to state employees.