

§801. Membership

1. Membership mandatory. Every Legislator serving in the Legislature on or after December 3, 1986 is a member of the Legislative Retirement Program, except that any Legislator who was a member of the Maine State Retirement System on December 2, 1986 may choose to be a member of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program instead of becoming a member of the Legislative Retirement Program, and any Legislator who is a public school teacher or an employee of the Maine Community College System on leave of absence for the purpose of serving in the Legislature continues to be a member of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program and to have contributions deducted from the member's legislative earnable compensation as provided by Title 5, section 17701. A Legislator who terminates employment from a position requiring membership in the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program no longer contributes to the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program and, if qualified, is eligible to become a benefit recipient under Title 5, section 17804. Upon such termination, the Legislator becomes a member of the Legislative Retirement Program. Except as provided in section 802, subsection 4, paragraph A, creditable service granted under the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program may not be transferred to the Legislative Retirement Program. A member ceases to be a member when the member withdraws the member's contributions, becomes a beneficiary as a result of the member's own retirement or dies.
[PL 2007, c. 491, §18 (AMD).]

1-A. Waiver provision. Any Legislator may petition the presiding officer for a waiver from the membership provisions of subsection 1 if it can be demonstrated that membership in the Legislative Retirement Program will create or exacerbate a Legislator's federal income tax liability due to the ownership of another retirement plan. The Office of the Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall provide assistance as requested by the Legislator or presiding officer. The presiding officer shall respond to the Legislator's petition within 30 days and shall provide copies of the decision to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council and the Chief Executive Officer of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. A granted waiver of membership constitutes a one-time irrevocable election with respect to all subsequent employment with the same employer when membership in the Legislative Retirement Program is not mandatory.
[PL 2009, c. 474, §4 (AMD); PL 2021, c. 548, §45 (REV).]

2. Reports from Executive Director of the Legislative Council. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall submit to the board of trustees a statement showing the name, title, compensation, sex, date of birth and length of service of each member and any other information as the board of trustees may require at such times as the board of trustees may require.
[PL 2007, c. 491, §18 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 507, §1 (NEW). PL 1985, c. 737, §B4 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 133, §7 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 501, §O8 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 657, §1 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 20, §OO2 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 20, §OO4 (AFF). PL 2005, c. 516, §1 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 58, §3 (REV). PL 2007, c. 249, §2 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 491, §18 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 474, §4 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 548, §45 (REV).

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