

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 444

H. P. 345

House of Representatives, February 8, 1979

On Motion of Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bowden of Brooklin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Allow Prorated Benefits for Times when a Person is Available for Work but Cannot Work for Important Personal Reasons.

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

26 MRSA § 1193, sub-§ 3, first ¶, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 555, § 14, is further amended to read:

For the duration of his unemployment subsequent to his having refused to accept an offer of suitable work for which he is reasonably fitted, or having refused to accept a referral to a suitable job opportunity when directed to do so by a local employment office of this State or another state or if an employer is unable to contact a former employee at last known or given address, for the purpose of recall to suitable employment; or the individual fails to respond to a request to report to the local office for the purpose of a referral to a suitable job, and the disqualification shall continue until claimant has earned 8 times his weekly benefit amount; ~~except, that, if~~ **if** the commission determines that refusal has occurred for cause of necessitous and compelling nature, the individual shall be ineligible ~~for the week in which the refusal occurred and~~ while such inability or unavailability continues, **but shall be eligible to receive prorated benefits for that portion of the week during which he was able and available.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to allow persons who, for important personal reasons, cannot answer an employer's call to work to be able to receive prorated benefits for the time they are available for work.