

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

---

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 516**

H. P. 421

House of Representatives, February 13, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Howe of So. Portland.

Cosponsor: Mr. Garsoe of Cumberland.

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

---

**AN ACT Relating to Attorney's Fees when Expenses are Paid in Workers' Compensation Cases.**

---

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

**Sec. 1.** 39 MRSA § 103, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 709, § 6, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

**No attorney who represents a client before the commission shall receive any fee from that client for that representation. Any attorney who violates this paragraph shall lose his fee and shall be liable in a court suit to pay damages to the client equal to 2 times the fee charged that client.**

**Sec. 2.** 39 MRSA § 110, as last amended by PL 1965, c. 489, § 9, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

**No attorney representing a client in a proceeding under this Title shall receive any fee from that client for an appearance before the commission, including preparation for that appearance. Any attorney who violates this paragraph shall lose his fee and shall be liable in a court suit to pay damages to the client equal to 2 times the fee charged for that client.**

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This bill will avoid the situation in which a client who thinks that the Workers' Compensation Commission has paid his attorney's bill later finds out that the attorney expects additional compensation for his work. The bill provides that an attorney representing a client before the commission will not receive a fee from the client for that representation.