

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/9/25

(Filing No. H-134)

**LABOR**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 46, L.D. 82, "An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Laws by Extending Indefinitely the Presumption Applying to Law Enforcement Officers, Corrections Officers, E-9-1-1 Dispatchers, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder"

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

**'Mandate preamble.** This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, 2/3 of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** the presumption applying to law enforcement officers, corrections officers, E-9-1-1 dispatchers, firefighters and emergency medical services persons diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder in the workers' compensation laws is necessary for the recruitment and retainment of professionals employed in these career fields; and

**Whereas,** the presumption is set to expire on October 1, 2025, which may be before the 90-day period has ended; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

**'Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
2 number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment is the unanimous report of the committee. The amendment adds a  
5 mandate preamble and an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

6 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

7 (See attached)



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 82

LR 39(02)

**An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Laws by Extending Indefinitely the Presumption Applying to Law Enforcement Officers, Corrections Officers, E-9-1-1 Dispatchers, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-134)**

**Committee: Labor**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

State Mandate - Exempted  
Potential current biennium cost increase - All funds

### State Mandates

#### Required Activity

Making permanent the requirement that shifts the burden of proof that a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical services worker, corrections officer or E-9-1-1 dispatcher diagnosed as having post-traumatic stress disorder by a psychiatrist or psychologist developed that condition as a result of work stress from the claimant to the employer and/or the employer's insurer may continue to necessitate a more vigorous and costly legal defense by municipalities and counties and potentially increase the number of cases lost.

**Unit Affected**  
Municipality  
County

**Local Cost**  
Significant  
statewide

Pursuant to the Mandate Preamble, the two-thirds vote of all members elected to each House exempts the State from the constitutional requirement to fund 90% of the additional costs.

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation may also result in additional costs to the State as a direct reimbursement employer and to the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Corrections associated with increased payments of workers' compensation benefits and legal and administrative expenses. The impact will depend on actual experience.