

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
Labor

BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

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993 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE COMPENSATION Hickey M-OTF-A
 BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES FORMERLY WORK- Paradis, P. m-ONTF
 ING FOR A BANKRUPT EMPLOYER Hayes PL 1983, c. 172
 Tammaro

SUMMARY: Maine Wage Assurance Fund would provide up to 3 weeks wages, rather than 1 week's wages, to employees owed wages by a bankrupt employer.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-104): Changes maximum to 2 weeks' wages (adopted).

994 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE SMALL BUSINESSES Tuttle ONTP(acc.)
 TO PARTICIPATE IN APPRENTICESHIP Zirkilton
 PROGRAMS Norton
 Dutremble

SUMMARY: Provides method to establish apprenticeship programs in piecework industries when certain minimum standards are met.

1038 AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE EVALUATION OF Nadeau Carryover to
 HEARING LOSS UNDER THE WORKERS' COM- Clark, H. next session
 PENSATION ACT Hayes
 MacEachern

SUMMARY: Makes it easier to collect benefits under occupational disease law by allowing benefits for hearing loss in higher frequencies, where loss is more common.

NOTE: Carried over pending negotiations among members of Speaker's Select Committee on Workers' Compensation on the measurement of hearing loss that will be compensable; see also LD 1757 on measurement of hearing loss.

1039 AN ACT REGARDING RETURN TO WORK Clark, H. LV/WD (acc.)
 UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW McHenry
 Hayes
 Baldacci

SUMMARY: Employers shall have the obligation to make jobs available to injured employees and to provide information on this subject to employees and their bargaining representatives; an employer's obligation to transfer an injured employee to suitable work shall continue for 1 year after maximum medical improvement or 2 years after the date of injury, whichever is earlier.

1040 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE SPEEDY REHABILI- Martin, J. LV/WD (acc.)
 TATION UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSA-
 TION ACT

SUMMARY: Employees disabled for more than 3 months shall be entitled, at the employer's expense, to rehabilitation and evaluation.