

# 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)

STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR  
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

PREPARED BY:

Gilbert Brewer, Legal Analyst

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
(207) 289-1670



HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR  
HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR  
GILBERT W. BREWER  
DAVID C. ELLIOTT  
MARTHA E. FREEMAN  
JERI B. GAUTSCHI  
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS  
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES  
JOHN B. KNOX  
EDWARD POTTER  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
LARS H. RYDELL  
JOHN R. SELSER  
ANDREA L. COLNES, RES. ASST.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1986

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTF	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD 2210 AN ACT TO REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO NOTIFY EMPLOYEES NOT ENACTED  
OF THE TERMINATION OR SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION SEE LD 2209  
OF GROUP INSURANCE

Sponsor: RUHLIN, Tuttle, Tammaro, Hale  
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 1953 (Minority Report)

SUMMARY: L.D. 2210 was the same as L.D. 2209 except that the references to substantial modifications of health benefit plans were retained. "Substantial modification" was also defined to include any change in the level of benefits under a health plan or a change in carriers.

LD 2273 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO PL 1985  
GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE c. 684

Sponsor: BEAULIEU, Hale  
Committee Report: OTP-ND OF LD 2057, ONTP

SUMMARY: The original bill, L.D. 2057, gave employees whose group health insurance was terminated because of a layoff or a workers' compensation injury the option to continue as members of the employer's group health plan at their own expense and at group rates, or to convert to an individual policy. The employee had 31 days after the layoff or the filing of a workers' compensation claim in which to elect to continue group coverage. Once continued, this coverage could only be terminated for failure to pay premiums or if the employee became eligible for coverage under another health plan.

The new draft, L.D. 2273, ensured that the bill covered both Blue Cross/ Blue Shield programs as well as other health insurers. It limited the eligibility of employees to those who had been employees for at least 6 months and whose termination was due to a temporary layoff or a noncontroverted workers' compensation or occupational disease claim. It extended the period of time in which the employee could elect to come under this extended coverage to 31 days from the termination of insurance for employees who had been laid off, and 60 days from the termination of insurance for employees who suffered a workers' compensation injury. L.D. 2273 also established limits on the length of this extended coverage. For employees who were terminated because of a layoff or a work-related injury which rendered the employee partially-disabled, the group coverage could be extended for up to 6 months from the last day of work; for those employees rendered totally