

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**

**REPORT**

**OF THE**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

for the calendar years  
**1951 - 1954**

Such statutes as mentioned should not be so strictly construed as to deprive them of their effectiveness. However, this office doubts that a court would enforce any recommendation, however wisely given, with respect to the type of machinery used. The statute in question appears to extend only to the use of guards on machinery.

“If the commissioner . . . shall find upon such inspection that . . . the machinery in such workshops and factories (is) located or (is) in a condition so as to be dangerous to employees and not sufficiently guarded . . . he shall notify the owner, . . .”

JAMES G. FROST  
Deputy Attorney General

June 4, 1953

To Gerald Murch, Chief Parole Officer

Re: Good Time Allowance for Prisoners Serving Life Terms

Your question relative to the allowance of good time for prisoners serving life sentences has been received. We understand that you are particularly interested in view of the fact that Chapter 404 of the Public Laws of 1953 provides that certain prisoners serving life sentences may be released on parole after serving thirty (30) years.

Chapter 84, Section 1 of the Public Laws of 1951, amending Section 27 of Chapter 23 of the Revised Statutes of 1944, provides as follows:

“Each convict, *except those sentenced to imprisonment for life*, whose record of conduct shows that he has faithfully observed all the rules and requirements of the prison, shall be entitled to a deduction of 7 days per month from the minimum term of his sentence, commencing on the first day of his arrival at the prison.”

The underlined in the foregoing clearly shows that such credit is not allowable and settles the question without even discussing the legislative intent in Chapter 404 of the Public Laws of 1953, allowing release “*after serving 30 years’ imprisonment.*”

ROGER A. PUTNAM  
Assistant Attorney General

June 8, 1953

To General Spaulding Bisbee, Director of Civil Defense and Public Safety

Re: Auxiliary Policewoman – Compensation for Injury

Receipt is acknowledged of your inquiry of May 21st. You state that the question has come up of coverage under the Workmen’s Compensation Law in case an Auxiliary Policewoman who is a housewife and working as a volunteer might suffer a compensable injury and what the basis of compensation would be in that instance.

Section 2 of Chapter 267, Laws of 1953, provides that in computing the average weekly wage of any claimant under the provisions of that section,