

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AUGUSTA, MAINEOFFICE OF
THE GOVERNORNO. 7FY 82/83
DATE January 24, 1983

INTERGRATION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION MANAGEMENT WITH OVERALL
PERSONNEL, EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND FISCAL MANAGEMENT IN STATE
GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, the efforts of the past two years of the Maine Insurance Advisory Board and its contractor have assisted State government to better manage workers' compensation cases involving State employees; and

WHEREAS, continued improvement in safety programs and responsible workers' compensation management are of benefit to both taxpayers and State employees; and

WHEREAS, risk management, insurance reserve management, and fiscal authorization and control are integral components of workers' compensation management; and

WHEREAS, the pilot project of the Maine Insurance Advisory Board under Executive Order No 2 FY 1980/81 has shown that central State Personnel and Employee Relations administration should continue and strengthen its role in addressing workers' compensation,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph E. Brennan, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby order as follows:

Section 1. Duties of the Commissioner. The Commissioner of Personnel shall:

1. Provide for the consolidation, coordination, and central case management of workers' compensation management in State government;
2. Provide for improved personnel safety programs through the development and use of a Maine Safety Program involving the expertise and resources of other agencies including the Maine Insurance Advisory Board, the Bureau of Labor Standards, the Department of Transportation and others.
3. Provide for continued improvement of administrative procedures, training and assistance to departmental and agency staff;
4. Provide for central case management of all workers' compensation claims brought against the State.

Such management shall include:

- (a) directions to agencies by whom claimants are employed;

- (b) processing of claims and payments;
 - (c) delegating the management of complex claims to the independent contractor retained by the State, and full cooperation and consultation with the contractor on all such cases;
 - (d) preparation of the defense of contested claims, with the assistance of the attorneys assigned to this function;
 - (e) keeping affected agencies fully informed of the status of pending claims; and
 - (f) taking such other steps as may be necessary to ensure an orderly and efficient claims management system.
5. Provide for periodic workers' compensation/safety program review with each agency; and
6. Provide for semi-annual State Workers' Compensation System review and revision, involving primary administrative and user agencies.

Section 2. Insurance Advisory Board.

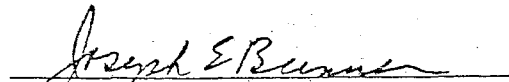
The efforts of the Department of Personnel and the Governor's Office of Employee Relations shall be supplemented by such services of the Maine Insurance Advisory Board and its contractor as may be required and each of them shall receive the full support and commitment of all State agencies.

Section 3. Financial Management and Personnel Transfer.

It is further ordered that the Department of Personnel/Governor's Office of Employee Relations, and the Department of Finance and Administration through the Maine Insurance Advisory Board and the Bureau of the Budget shall provide for improved central claims payment and agency billing, Insurance Reserve Fund management and use, Case Cost-Reserve Management, and appropriate funds and position use to maintain the productive employment of injured or disabled employees.

Section 4. Legislation.

The Commissioner of Personnel shall prepare necessary legislation for submission to the 111th Legislature for review by this office.


JOSEPH E. BRENNAN
Governor