MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1540

H. P. 1121 House of Representatives, March 16, 1971 Referred to Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. McTeague of Brunswick.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Transfer to Suitable Work During Rehabilitation or Treatment Under Workmen's Compensation Law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

R. S., T. 39, §66-A, additional. Title 39 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 66-A to read as follows:

§ 66-A. Transfer to suitable work during period of treatment or rehabilitation.

Where an employee has suffered a compensable injury which disables him from performing his customary or most recent work, his employer at the time of such injury shall transfer him to work suitable to his physical condition where such work is available, during the time that the employee is subjected to medical treatment or rehabilitation, or both, and until such treatment is discontinued on the advice of the physician conducting the same or of the therapist in charge of the rehabilitation program or until the employee has reached the maximum level of rehabilitation for such worker in the judgment of the commission under all of the circumstances, whichever period is the longest. The commission shall, after making due inquiry, upon the request of an employee claiming to be unable to perform his customary or most recent work because of physical incapacity resulting from an injury or disease, require that the injured workman be removed from work detrimental to his health and be assigned to other work in the employer's establishment, if available. The exercise of this authority shall not conflict with any provision of a collective bargaining agreement between such employer and a labor organization which is the collective bargaining representative of the unit of which the injured workman is a part, if such agreement grants the injured employee greater rights than are provided in this section.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this Act is to require an employer to give a disabled employee another job, if available.