

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2393

H. P. 1883

House of Representatives, January 18, 1974

Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hobbins of Saco.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FOUR

**AN ACT to Reduce the Appointed Members of the Industrial Accident
Commission from Four to Two and Reevaluate the Pay Range.**

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 2, § 6, sub-§ 4, amended. Subsection 4 of section 6 of Title 2 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 2 of chapter 509 of the public laws of 1973 and as amended, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

Industrial Accident Commission members.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 2, § 6, sub-§ 5, amended. The 4th line of subsection 5 of section 6 of Title 2 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 2 of chapter 509 of the public laws of 1973, is repealed as follows:

~~Chairman of the Industrial Accident Commission;~~

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 2, § 6, sub-§ 6, amended. The 5th line from the end of subsection 6 of Title 2 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 2 of chapter 509 of the public laws of 1973, is repealed as follows:

~~Industrial Accident Commission members, other than the Chairman;~~

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 39, § 91, amended. The first paragraph of section 91 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

The Industrial Accident Commission, as heretofore established, shall consist of 6 4 members, 4 2 of whom shall be men learned in the law and mem-

bers in good standing of the bar of this State. They shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council. One of the commissioners, to be designated as chairman, shall be appointed for the term of 5 years, and the other commissioners for the term of 4 years each. The title of the members which was heretofore "associate legal member" shall be "commissioner." The Director of the Bureau of Labor and Industry and the Superintendent of Insurance shall be members ex officio.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Pursuant to Management and Cost Survey recommendation #1, Industrial Accident Commission, this Act reduces the appointed membership of the Commission from 4 to 2 and sets a salary of \$21,000 for each. As presently constituted there is only one hearing reporter and members can only formally act one at a time. The purpose of this Act is to reduce the membership to 2 full-time commissioners. However, in addition to formal hearings, much time is required for conferences and informal meetings along with rendering technical assistance to claimants and preparing summaries setting grounds for decisions.

Because of the volume of work involved in addition to formal hearings and in order to prevent a reduction in the size of the commission, which might adversely affect the injured workman, the Governor in his Special Message of January 10, 1974 to the Special Session of the 106th Legislature requested this bill be deferred for further study.