

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 590

H. P. 456

House of Representatives, February 11, 1975

Speaker laid before the House, referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT to Require Industrial Accident Insurers to Maintain Agents within
the State of Maine.**

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

Sec. 1. 39 MRSA § 2, sub-§ 8, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 746, § 3, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

No insurance carrier shall be qualified to issue an industrial accident insurance policy covering any employees working in this State unless it has and continuously maintains an employee or agent within this State empowered to investigate claims arising under this chapter; sign agreements for the payment of compensation as provided by this chapter; and issue drafts or checks in payment of obligations arising under this chapter in amounts of not less than \$1,000.

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 1976.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to avoid delays in the payment of workmen's compensation claims which arise because of the absence of a Maine agent or Maine employee of foreign compensation insurers. Such delays commonly average 2 months and cause great hardship to injured Maine workers.