

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1529

H. P. 1215

House of Representatives, March 26, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Connolly of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Eligibility of Benefits under the Employment
Security Law.

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA § 1192, sub-§ 1, is amended to read:

1. **Has claim for benefits.** He has made a claim for benefits with respect to such week or part thereof in accordance with such week or part thereof in accordance with such regulations as the commission may prescribe;

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA § 1192, sub-§ 3, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 538, § 23, is further amended to read:

3. **Is able and available for work.** He is able to work and is available for work at his usual or customary trade, occupation, profession or business or in such other trade, occupation, profession or business as his prior training or experience shows him to be fitted or qualified; and in addition to having complied with subsection 2 is himself actively seeking work. **Provided, however, that an unemployed individual who is neither able nor available for work due to illness shall be eligible to receive prorated benefits for that portion of the week during which he was able and available;**

STATEMENT OF FACT

Under current legislation an individual who is otherwise eligible for unemployment benefits loses these benefits for any given week if he becomes unable to work due to illness. The length of illness may incapacitate the individual for only one workday, however, the benefits are lost for the entire week. This bill provides for restoring eligibility on a prorated basis for those days of the week when an individual is able and available to work.