

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 441

H. P. 342.

House of Representatives, February 8, 1979

On Motion of Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. McKean of Limestone.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Narrow the Exemption Allowing Certain Persons to Voluntarily Leave their Jobs and Still Qualify for Unemployment Benefits.

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

26 MRSA § 1193, sub-§ 1, ¶ A, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 472, § 1-A, is amended to read:

Leaving work shall not be considered voluntary without good cause when it is caused by the illness or disability of the claimant or of his immediate family and the claimant took all reasonable precautions to protect his employment status by having promptly notified his employer as to the reasons for his absence and by promptly requesting reemployment when he is again able to resume employment; ~~nor shall leaving~~ **Leaving work shall not** be considered voluntary without good cause if the leaving was necessary for the claimant to accompany, follow or join his spouse in a new place of residence and he can clearly show upon arrival at the new place of residence an attachment to the new labor market and is in all respects able, available and actively seeking suitable work, **except that this exemption from disqualification shall not apply to employees with a written contract setting forth a definite term of employment of one year or less;**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to narrow the current exemption that allows persons to qualify for unemployment benefits because they had to quit their jobs to follow their spouse to another location. Under this bill, this exemption would not be available if the person was hired with written contract setting forth a definite term of employment of one year or less.