

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 542

H. P. 417

House of Representatives, February 14, 1979

The Speaker laid before the House and 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. Tarbell of Bangor.

Cosponsors: Mr. Hobbins of Saco, Miss Gavett of Orono, and Mr. Studley of Berwick.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT ' to Make the Voluntary Payment of Workers' Compensation
Nonprejudicial.**

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

39 MRSA § 51-A is enacted to read:

§ 51-A. Voluntary payments

The provision by an employer of any allowance, benefit, payment or service to an injured employee or, in the event of his death, to his dependents, which is not then required to be provided under this Act or which is provided when there is any dispute or question concerning the right of the employee or his dependents to compensation under this Act, shall not be considered to be an admission of liability for compensation by the employer.

STATEMENT OF FACT

No employer should be discouraged from providing prompt medical services or benefits to an injured employee because of the possibility that the provision of benefits may be regarded as an admission of liability. This bill will eliminate any hesitation on the part of the employer and facilitate prompt payment of benefits.