

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 553**

H. P. 436

House of Representatives, February 14, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Leonard of Woolwich.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT to Disqualify Recipients of Workers' Compensation Benefits from  
Unemployment Compensation.**

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

26 MRSA § 1193, sub-§ 5, ¶ D is enacted to read:

**D. Benefits under the workers' compensation laws of any state or similar laws of the United States, except that no individual shall be considered to be entitled to receive those benefits in the absence of a compensation agreement or an award of compensation by the agency charged with the responsibility for administering the applicable law.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

In the recent case of **Page v. General Electric Co.** the law court held that an unemployed individual may simultaneously collect both workers' compensation and unemployment compensation benefits. This decision is inconsistent with the philosophy underlying both compensation programs in that it can sometimes result in an employee being placed in a better economic position than he was while he was working. This bill, therefore, would make the 2 forms of compensation mutually exclusive and would disqualify those who are receiving workers' compensation.