

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-120)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 70, L.D. 98, Bill, "AN ACT to Permit School Bus Drivers to be Eligible for Unemployment Compensation ."

Amend the Bill by striking out all of the title and insert in its place the following:

'AN ACT to Permit School Employees to be Eligible for Unemployment Compensation.'

Further amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1192, sub-§7, 1A, as amended by PL 1977, c. 585, §2, is further amended to read:

A. With respect to weeks of unemployment beginning after December 31, 1977, in an instructional, research or principal administrative capacity for an educational institution, benefits shall not be paid based on such services for any week of unemployment commencing during the period between 2 successive academic years or terms, or when an agreement provides instead for a similar period between 2 regular but not successive terms, during such period, or during a period of paid sabbatical leave provided for in the individual's contract, to any individual if such individual performs such services in the first of such academic years or terms, and if

there is a contract or annual written reasonable assurance that such individual will perform services in any such capacity for any educational institution in the 2nd of such academic years or terms; and

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §1192, sub-§7, ¶¶B and C, as amended by PL 1977, c. 585, §2, are repealed.'

Fiscal Note

Cost estimates cannot be made which reflect actual charges against the unemployment fund, or directly to employers who are reimbursers, since this depends upon other eligibility factors, including readiness to work, availability of alternative employment and so forth. The maximum cost to the fund, or reimbursers, assuming all such employees were otherwise eligible to receive benefits and chose to do so, would be as follows.

The Department of Educational and Cultural Services in conjunction with the Department of Manpower Affairs estimate the maximum cost of this amendment could be \$2,238,000 to local^{school} budgets, of which about 50% or \$1,119,000 will be reimbursed through educational subsidy 2 years after the expense.

This estimate is based on 1,449 bus drivers, 3,577 noninstructors and about 1,500 janitors qualifying for this unemployment or a total of 6,526 persons receiving \$343.04 - \$2,238,000 which is an estimated maximum cost.

Statement of Fact

This amendment expands the provisions of the original bill to allow unemployment compensation to be paid to all school employees in the same class as bus drivers, namely, those not employed in an "instructional, research or principal administrative capacity."

Reported by the Minority of the Committee on Labor.
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of the House.

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