

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 516

H. P. 464

House of Representatives, January 29, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Baker of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Unavailability Due to Illness under the Employment Security Law.

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

26 MRSA § 1192, sub-§ 3, as last amended by PL 1979, c. 651, §§ 23 and 47, is further amended to read:

3. Is able and available for work. He is able to work and is available for full-time work at his usual or customary trade, occupation, profession or business or in such other trade, occupation, profession or business for which 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 in accordance with the regulations of the commission; provided that an unemployed individual who is neither able nor available for work due to good cause as determined by the commission shall be eligible to receive prorated benefits for that portion of the week during which he was able and available—~~;~~ **No claimant may be considered ineligible for any week of unemployment for failure to comply with the provision of this subsection if the failure is due to an illness or disability which occurs after he has filed a claim for benefits and registered for work and no suitable work has been refused by him because of that unavailability due to illness;**

STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently the law disqualifies an unemployment compensation claimant from benefits for those days in which he was ill, irrespective of whether or not any suitable work was refused as a result of this illness. This bill would prohibit the withholding of benefits for those days in which a person was ill, provided the illness did not interfere with his actually accepting a suitable job during the period of his illness.