

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 771

H. P. 667

House of Representatives, February 10, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Rolde of York.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Provide the Employment Security Commission Flexibility in Handling Administrative Appeals.

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

26 MRSA § 1194, sub-§ 2, 4th ¶, 2nd sentence, as last amended by PL 1979, c. 113, is further amended to read:

Subject to subsection 11, unless the claimant or any such interested party, within 15 calendar days after such notification was mailed to his last known address, files an appeal from such determination, such determination shall be final, **provided that the period within which an appeal may be filed shall be extended for good cause.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

Occasionally a claimant, through no fault of his own, will be unable to appeal the decision of a deputy disqualifying him from benefits within the statutory time limit of 15 days. His mail may have been delayed or lost, another family member may have neglected to give him his mail or he may have been temporarily hospitalized or called away from home for an emergency. Under present law, the commission does not have the power to extend the appeal period no matter how compelling the reason.

This bill allows the commission the flexibility to extend the time for good cause shown by the claimant.