

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 329

6
7 H.P. 269

House of Representatives, January 31, 1983

8 Reference to the Committee on Labor, sent up for concurrence and
9 ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

11 Presented by Representative Kelleher of Bangor.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Prevent Discrimination against
18 Seasonal Workers in the Unemployment Insurance
19 Program.
20

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

23 26 MRSA §1251, as amended by PL 1977, c. 694,
24 §§482 and 483, is repealed.

25 STATEMENT OF FACT

26 Under present law, workers whose earnings are
27 from industries determined to be seasonal are eligi-
28 ble for unemployment benefits only if they are unem-
29 ployed during the season in which that industry cus-
30 tomarily operates even if they are able, available
31 and actively seeking work outside of that season.

Only 9 other states have such a provision. In most states no distinction is made in determining an individual's benefit rights between wages received from employers whose operation is seasonal in character and those whose is not.

Other provisions of our present law are sufficient to prevent persons whose attachment to the labor force is clearly limited to a brief period of seasonal work from receiving unemployment compensation benefits. Earnings, durational employment standards and requirements that claimants be able, available and actively seeking work, insure that only persons with a genuine attachment to the labor force receive benefits.

This bill repeals the seasonality provision of the employment security law.

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