

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1162

S.P. 385

In Senate, April 9, 1987

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate
Presented by Senator DOW of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Representative FOSTER of Ellsworth, Senator COLLINS of Aroostook, Representative CONNOLLY of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Consolidate and Improve the
Administration of Workers'
Compensation in State Government.

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

5 MRSA §1877, sub-§9 is enacted to read:

9. Workers' compensation. The commissioner shall develop a plan to transfer responsibility for administration of all workers' compensation claims filed against the State to the department. The plan shall include a requirement that the department include in its budget request a line item identified as workers' compensation. The plan shall be operative by January 1, 1988.

1 The commissioner shall report to the joint standing
2 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
3 appropriations and financial affairs at the beginning
4 of each regular session of the Legislature with re-
5 spect to:

6 A. The incidence and costs of workers' compensa-
7 tion claims by department; and

8 B. The efforts being undertaken on a statewide
9 or departmental basis to reduce the evidence of
10 workers' compensation claims.

11 STATEMENT OF FACT

12 The administration of workers' compensation
13 claims against the State is decentralized in many de-
14 partments. Current budgeting procedures do not re-
15 quire separate reporting of these costs to the Legis-
16 lature. This inhibits legislative oversight of the
17 budgeting for these costs and development of a com-
18 prehensive plan for reducing these costs.

19 By consolidating administration of state workers'
20 compensation costs in the Department of Administra-
21 tion and requiring line item budget requests and an
22 annual report to the Legislature, consistent policy
23 for administration and planning can be established.

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