

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Emergency)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2127

S.P. 813

In Senate, January 22, 1988

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator COLLINS of Aroostook
Cosponsored by: Representative HEPBURN of Skowhegan,
Representative BICKFORD of Jay

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Provide Retraining
Opportunities to Workers Who have been
Replaced During a Labor Dispute.

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5 **Emergency** preamble. Whereas, Acts of the
6 Legislature do not become effective until 90 days
7 after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

8 Whereas, amending the dislocated workers' benefit
9 program will assist in providing training for workers

1 currently on strike against International Paper
2 Company and adding to their benefits; and

3 Whereas, the majority of those workers will be
4 exhausting their regular unemployment benefits during
5 the month of February 1988; and

6 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these
7 facts create an emergency within the meaning of the
8 Constitution of Maine and require the following
9 legislation as immediately necessary for the
10 preservation of the public peace, health and safety;
11 now, therefore,

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

14 26 MRSA §1196, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1985,
15 c. 591, §5, is repealed the following enacted in its
16 place:

17 1. Dislocated worker defined. As used in this
18 section; section 1043, subsection 5, paragraph B; and
19 section 1191, subsection 4, paragraph A, the term
20 "dislocated worker" means an individual who:

21 A. Has been terminated or laid off or is
22 long-term unemployed; and

23 B. Is unlikely to return to or has limited
24 opportunities for employment in his previous
25 industry or occupation in the area in which he
26 resides, including any older individual who may
27 have substantial barriers to employment because of
28 his age.

29 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency
30 cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when
31 approved.

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 This bill changes the dislocated workers' benefit
3 law to restate the definition of dislocated worker to
4 cover workers who have been replaced during a strike
5 or lockout. It combines the definition of a worker
6 who has been terminated or laid off or is long-term
7 unemployed with the unlikeliness to return to, or
8 limited opportunities for employment in, a previous
9 industry or occupation. This amended program provides
10 workers with continuance of unemployment compensation
11 benefits for up to additional 26 weeks as long as they
12 are enrolled in a training program approved by the
13 Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission.

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