



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1396

S.P. 508

In Senate, April 27, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BUSTIN of Kennebec. Cosponsored by Representative CONLEY of Portland and Representative RAND of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Protect Maine Workers from Needless Injury and Death by Creating the Offenses of Work-related Manslaughter and Work-related Aggravated Assault.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
3	Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §203, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced
5	by PL 1977, c. 510, §40, is amended to read:
7	A. Recklessly, or with criminal negligence, causes the death of another human being; e_{Ξ}
9	Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA $\S203$, sub- $\$1$, \PB , as repealed and replaced by PL 1983, c. 372, $\$2$, is amended to read:
11	B. Intentionally or knowingly causes the death of another
13	B. Intentionally or knowingly causes the death of another human being under circumstances which do not constitute murder because he <u>the person</u> causes the death while under
15	the influence of extreme anger or extreme fear brought about by adequate provocation. Adequate provocation has the same
17	meaning as in section 201, subsection 4. The fact that he
19	<u>the person</u> causes the death while under the influence of extreme anger or extreme fear brought about by adequate
	provocation constitutes a mitigating circumstance reducing
21	murder to manslaughter and need not be proved in any prosecution initiated under this subsection , <u>;</u> or
23	Sec. 3. 17-A MRSA §203, sub-§1, ¶C is enacted to read:
25	Sec. 5. 17-A MIRSA 9203, Sub-91, JC 18 enacted to read:
	C. While having the direction, management, control or
27	<u>custody of any employment, place of employment or employee, intentionally or by negligence violates any occupational</u>
29	health or safety standard promulgated by the State
·	Government or Federal Government or any of their agencies,
31	if that violation causes death to an employee.
33	Sec. 4. 17-A MRSA §208, as amended by PL 1981, c. 317, §6, is
35	repealed and the following enacted in its place:
55	<u>§208. Aggravated assault</u>
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39	1. A person is guilty of aggravated assault if that person:
	A. Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes serious
41	bodily injury to another;
43	B. Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily
45	injury to another with use of a dangerous weapon:
47	<u>C. Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily</u> injury to another under circumstances manifesting extreme
40	indifference to the value of human life. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to, the number, location or
49	include, but are not limited to, the number, location or nature of the injuries, the manner or method inflicted or
51	the observable physical condition of the victim; or

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D. While having the direction, management, control or custody of any employment, place of employment or employee, intentionally or by negligence violates any occupational health or safety standard promulgated by the State Government or Federal Government or any of their agencies, if that violation causes a permanent or prolonged bodily injury.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

13 This bill provides that employers and their agents shall be held liable to criminal prosecution for causing the death or 15 permanent or prolonged impairment of an employee by the intentional or negligent violation of federal or state safety 17 regulations. This bill is modeled on a similar provision of the California Labor Code.