

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 141

H.P. 100

House of Representatives, January 16, 1991

Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to the Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

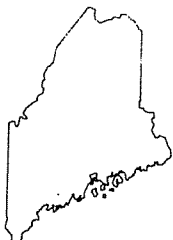
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HASTINGS of Fryeburg.
Cosponsored by Senator ESTY of Cumberland and Representative PINEAU of Jay.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Change the Title of the Commission on Safety in the Maine
Workplace.



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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-G, sub-§26**, as enacted by PL 1987, c.
786, §5, is amended to read:

6 26. Labor Commission on Expenses 26 MRSA
 Safety and Only §51
8 Health in the
 Maine Workplace

10 **Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §51**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 559, Pt. B,
12 §7, is amended to read:

14 **§51. Commission on Safety and Health in the Maine Workplace**

16 1. **Purpose; members; compensation.** The Commission on
18 Safety and Health in the Maine Workplace, established by Title 5,
chapter 379, section 12004-G, subsection 26, shall--~~consist~~
20 consists of knowledgeable citizens who shall examine safety
attitudes, programs and procedures in Maine's the State's
22 workplaces; identify initiatives to reduce the frequency,
severity and cost of work-related accidents and illnesses; and
promote and improve best-practice safety programs.

24 A. The Governor shall appoint the members of the
26 commission, which shall-~~consist~~ consists of not more than 12
members, including:

28 (1) Three members with expertise and professional
30 qualifications in the field of occupational safety and
health;

32 (2) Two members representing workers and 2 members
34 representing private employers, all of whom must be
knowledgeable in the area of workplace safety; and

36 (3) Other members the Governor considers necessary and
38 appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.

40 B. Initial appointments shall-~~be~~ are made for terms of one,
42 2, 3 and 4 years such that the terms of approximately 1/4 of
the members expire in each year. All subsequent
44 appointments shall-~~be~~ are for terms of 4 years. Each member
shall hold office until his a successor is appointed and
qualified.

46 C. The Governor shall appoint the ~~chairman~~ chair of the
48 commission and the Commissioner of Labor shall serve as
~~vice-chairman~~ vice-chair. The commission shall actively
50 seek information and involvement from organized labor, the
professional safety community, the various state and federal
52 agencies concerned with safety and interested private
citizens, groups and organizations.

2 D. The appointed members of the board shall ~~be compensated~~
3 are entitled to compensation according to Title 5, chapter
4 379. The commission ~~chairman~~ chair must approve and
5 countersign all vouchers for expenditures under this
6 paragraph.

8 **2. Duties.** The commission shall conduct studies and hold
9 public meetings as necessary to develop findings and
10 recommendations respecting each of the following issues:

12 A. Evaluation of the effectiveness of current worker safety
13 efforts, practices and programs in the State and the
14 attitudes of employers and workers toward safety;

16 B. Identification of the best-practice safety programs in
17 the State and elsewhere, whose ~~wide-spread~~ widespread
18 adoption would reduce the incidence, severity and cost of
19 workplace accidents and illnesses;

20 C. Identification of emerging occupational safety and
21 health issues that will be of importance in the future and
22 assessment of their policy implications; and

24 D. Determination of existing statistical information on
25 accidents and illnesses and reliability and adequacy to
26 monitor trends and to support effective safety
27 rehabilitation and compensation programs.

30 The commission shall also review occupational safety loan
31 requests as provided for in section 63.

32 **3. Recommendations.** The commission shall make
33 recommendations on a continuing basis to include:

36 A. Specific recommendations for action by the Governor, the
37 Legislature, educators, the safety profession, employers and
38 workers ~~which~~ that will reduce the frequency, severity and
39 costs of work-related accidents and illnesses and ~~which~~ will
40 enhance, promote and improve safety in Maine's the State's
41 workplaces; and

42 B. Recommendations for actions that will improve employer,
43 worker and public attitudes toward safety in the workplace
44 and that will create a continuing public-private,
45 employer-employee partnership in the area of job safety.

48 **4. Support.** The Department of Labor shall provide
49 administrative, clerical and technical support to the commission
50 and act as its fiscal agent unless otherwise provided for. All
51 agencies of the State shall cooperate fully with the commission.

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