

L.D. 802

(Filing No. S-156)

STATE OF MAINE SENATE 116TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 264, L.D. 802, Bill, "An Act to Improve the Unemployment Collection Process for Employer Contributions"

Amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "§1225." 18 in subsection 6 in paragraph B in subparagraph (1) in the first line (page 4, line 11 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: 20 "with" the following: 'willful'

Further amend the bill in section 3 in that part designated "§1225." in subsection 6 in paragraph B in subparagraph (2) in the 3rd to 5th lines (page 4, lines 18 to 20 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "a responsible officer, director, member, agent or employee of a person who has collected those contributions' and inserting in its place the following: 'an employer'

30 Further amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 2 in the 6th line (page 4, line 42 in L.D.) by striking out the 32 following: "\$5" and inserting in its place the following: '\$5 the usual and customary fee'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of sections 5 and 36 6 and inserting in their place the following:

38 'Sec. 5. 26 MRSA §1232 is enacted to read:

40 **§1232.** Licenses

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 Information provided to commissioner. At the request of the commissioner, every department, board, commission, division, authority, district or other agency of the State issuing or renewing a license or other certificate of authority to conduct a

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profession, trade or business shall provide to the commissioner, in such form as the commissioner may prescribe, a list of all licenses or certificates of authority issued or renewed by that agency during the preceding calendar year, beginning with calendar year 1993. The list provided to the commissioner must contain the name, address, social security or federal identification number of the licensees and such other identifying information as the commissioner may adopt by rule. Notwithstanding other provisions of law, a person seeking a license or certificate of authority or a renewal shall provide, and the responsible agency shall collect, the information required by the commissioner under this section. Failure by a person to provide that information to a licensing or certifying agency results in an automatic denial of a request for a license or certificate of authority or a renewal.

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2. Failure to file or pay taxes; determination to prevent 18 renewal, reissuance or other extension of license or certificate. If the commissioner determines that any person who holds a state-issued license or certificate of authority to 20 conduct a profession, trade or business has failed to file a 22 return at the time required under this chapter or failed to pay any tax liability due under this chapter that has been demanded, 24 and the person continues to fail to file or pay after at least 2 specific written requests to do so, the commissioner shall notify 26 the person in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, that refusal to file the required tax return or to pay 28 the overdue tax liability may result in loss of license or certificate of authority. If the person continues for a period 30 in excess of 30 days from notice of possible denial of renewal or reissuance of a license or certificate of authority to fail to 32 file or show reason why the person is not required to file or if the person continues not to pay, the commissioner shall notify 34 the person in writing of the determination to prevent renewal, reissuance or extension of the license or certificate of 36 authority by the issuing agency. A review of this determination is available by filing an appeal under section 1226 to the Maine 38 Unemployment Insurance Commission. Either by failure to proceed to the next step of appeal or by exhaustion of the steps of appeal, the determination of the commissioner's right to prevent 40 renewal or reissuance becomes final unless otherwise determined 42 by appeal.

44 3. Refusal to renew, reissue or otherwise extend license or certificate. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any 46 issuing agency that is notified by the commissioner of the commissioner's final determination to prevent renewal or reissuance of a license or certificate of authority under 48 subsection 2 shall refuse to reissue, renew or otherwise extend 50 the license or certificate of authority. Notwithstanding Title

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5. sections 10003 and 10005, an action by an issuing agency pursuant to this subsection is not subject to the requirements of Title 5, chapter 375, subchapters IV and VI and no hearing by the issuing agency or in Administrative Court is required. A refusal by an agency to reissue, renew or otherwise extend the license or certificate of authority is deemed a final determination within the meaning of Title 5, section 10002.

4. Subsequent reissuance, renewal or other extension of 10 license or certificate. The agency may reissue, renew or otherwise extend the license or certificate of authority in 12 accordance with the agency's statutes and rules after the agency receives a certificate issued by the commissioner that the person 14 is in good standing with respect to all returns due or with respect to any tax due as of the date of issuance of the certificate. An agency may waive any applicable requirement for 16 reissuance, renewal or other extension if it determines that the 18 imposition of that requirement places an undue burden on the person and that a waiver of the requirement is consistent with 20 the public interest.

5. Financial institutions excluded. This section does not apply to any registration, permit, order or approval issued pursuant to Title 9-B nor does it apply to tax registration certificates issued by the Bureau of Taxation for sales tax, withholding tax and fuel tax.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

'FISCAL NOTE

34 By strengthening the Department of Labor's ability to collect delinquent unemployment insurance taxes, the bill will 36 increase revenues to the Maine Unemployment Compensation Fund by \$132,000 and \$176,000 for fiscal years 1993-94 and 1994-95, 38 respectively.

40 The Department of Labor will incur some minor additional costs to administer a strengthened collection process for
42 delinquent unemployment insurance taxes. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.
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A number of state agencies may incur some minor additional 46 costs to provide required lists of licensees to the Department of Labor. These costs can be absorbed within the various agencies' 48 existing budgeted resources.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment modifies the original bill by removing the section that would have imposed personal liability for the 4 payment of a corporation's unemployment taxes. The amendment also replaces the section controlling the revocation of a license б to do business for failure to pay unemployment taxes so that it is more closely aligned with the comparable statute for the 8 Bureau of Taxation. The amendment also provides that the period of limitation for tax assessments does not apply where there is a 10 "willful" intent to evade. The amendment changes the fee to be paid for recording a lien from \$5 to the usual and customary 12 fee. The amendment also adds a fiscal note.

REported by the Majority for the Committee on Labor. Reproduced and Distributed Pursuant to Senate Rule 12. (5/17/93) (Filing No. S-156)