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Legislative Document

No. 178

H.P. 136

House of Representatives, January 14, 1997

An Act to Permit an Employer to Offer a Compressed Time Workweek to Consenting Employees.

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

GOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative WINSOR of Norway. Cosponsored by Senator SMALL of Sagadahoc.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1995, c. 510, §1, is further amended to read: 4 6 3. Overtime rate. An Except as provided in section 664-A, an employer may not require an employee to work more than 40 hours in any one week unless 1 1/2 times the regular hourly rate 8 is paid for all hours actually worked in excess of 40 hours in The regular hourly rate includes all earnings, 10 that week. bonuses, commissions and other compensation that is paid or due based on actual work performed and does not include any sums 12 excluded from the definition of "regular rate" under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 United States Code, Section 207(e). 1416 The overtime provision of this section does not apply to: 18 Α. Automobile mechanics, automobile parts clerks and automobile salesmen sales representatives as defined in section 663; 20 B. Hotels and motels; 22 24 C. Mariners; 26 D. Public employees; 28 E. Restaurants and other eating establishments; and F. The canning, processing, preserving, freezing, drying, 30 marketing, storing, packing for shipment or distribution of: 32 (1) Agricultural produce; 34 (2) Meat and fish products; and 36 (3) Perishable foods. 38 Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §664-A is enacted to read: 40 <u>§664-A. Compressed time arrangements</u> 42 1. Compressed workweek option. An employer may offer to a consenting employee a work schedule that permits the employee to 44 work 44 hours in a single workweek without overtime compensation 46 and to work 36 hours in the succeeding workweek, resulting in a 2-week work period equal to 80 hours. If an employee is working 48 under such a compressed time arrangement, any hours worked during the 2-week period exceeding 80 hours must be compensated at a 50 rate of 1 1/2 times the regular hourly rate.

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workweek is only valid if the consent is given in writing on a 4 form that specifies the first day of the 2-week work cycle. An employee may withdraw consent to the compressed workweek option 6 at any time, effective with the beginning of the next 2-week cycle. 8 3. Applicability. This section does not affect an employer's obligation to pay overtime in accordance with the 10 federal Fair Labor Standards Act. 12 14 SUMMARY 16 This bill allows an employer to offer to a consenting employee to work 44 hours in a single workweek without overtime 18 compensation and to work 36 hours in the subsequent workweek,

2. Consent in writing. An employee's consent to a compressed

20 resulting in a 2-week work period equal to 80 hours.

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