

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LABOR

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 505, L.D. 1567, Bill, "An Act to Reinstate Limited Rehabilitation Benefits under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 for Those with Long-term Disabilities"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Require the Workers' Compensation Board to Evaluate Rehabilitation in the Workers' Compensation System and to Develop a System for Collecting Rehabilitation Data'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 39-A MRSA §358-A, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Rehabilitation data. The board shall develop a system for collecting rehabilitation data and provide any reports considered necessary for the improved function and administration of rehabilitation under this Act.

Sec. 2. Report. The Workers' Compensation Board shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters by January 15, 1999. The report must include an analysis of the progress being made toward developing a system for collecting rehabilitation data pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 39-A, section 358-A, subsection 5, an evaluation of the different definitions of rehabilitation currently in use, a proposal for a uniform definition of rehabilitation, an evaluation of rehabilitation education and outreach among employers and employees and a

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2 specific plan to address problems identified as a result of the
analysis and evaluation.'

4 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

6
8 **FISCAL NOTE**

10 The Workers' Compensation Board will incur some minor
12 additional costs to collect certain data and to report to the
Legislature. These costs can be absorbed within the board's
14 existing budgeted resources.'

16
18 **SUMMARY**

20 This amendment replaces the bill. It requires the Workers'
22 Compensation Board to develop a system for collecting data
regarding rehabilitation. The amendment also requires the board
24 to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
having jurisdiction over labor matters by January 15, 1999 with
26 an analysis of the progress made toward developing that system
and an evaluation of the existing rehabilitation program.