

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*M*  
*R.S.*

L.D. 762

DATE: May 7, 1999

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**LABOR**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 269, L.D. 762, Bill, "An Act to Eliminate the Requirement That the Employment Rehabilitation Fund Reimburse Employers and Insurers for Benefits Paid pursuant to the Benefits Adjustments"

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

**'An Act to Amend the Requirement that the Employment Rehabilitation Fund Reimburse Employers and Insurers for Benefits Paid pursuant to the Benefits Adjustments'**

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

**'Sec. 1. 39-A MRSA §213, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. A, §8 and affected by §§9 to 11, is amended to read:**

**4. Extension of 260-week limitation.** Effective January 1, 1998 and every January 1st thereafter, the 260-week limitation contained in subsection 1 must be extended 52 weeks for every year the board finds that the frequency of such cases involving the payment of benefits under section 212 or 213 is no greater than the national average based on frequency from the latest unit statistical plan aggregate data for Maine and on a countrywide basis, adjusted to a unified industry mix. The 260-week limitation contained in subsection 1 may not be extended under this subsection to more than 520 weeks. Reimbursement For payments relating to injuries occurring before January 1, 2000, reimbursement to the employer, insurer or group self-insurer for the payment of all benefits for additional weeks payable pursuant to this subsection must be made from the Employment Rehabilitation Fund.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

A. & S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 269, L.D. 762

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

4

**FISCAL NOTE**

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8 This bill extends by 2 years the requirement that the  
Employment Rehabilitation Fund reimburse employers and insurers  
for the costs of benefits related to certain injuries. The  
10 impact of this extension on the balance of the fund can not be  
determined at this time.

12

14 The bill is not expected to have any significant impact on  
the State's workers' compensation plan.'

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**SUMMARY**

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20 This amendment is the majority report. It provides that the  
Employment Rehabilitation Fund will continue to reimburse  
employers, insurers and group self-insurers for additional weeks  
22 of benefits payable under the benefits adjustment law for  
injuries that occurred prior to January 1, 2000. There will be  
24 no reimbursement from the fund for payments relating to injuries  
occurring on or after January 1, 2000. The amendment also adds a  
26 fiscal note to the bill.