

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2202

DATE: *April 4, 2002* (Filing No. S-*575*)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "*B*" to S.P. 822, L.D. 2202, Bill, "An Act to Ensure that 25% of Workers' Compensation Cases with Permanent Impairment Remain Eligible for Duration-of-disability Benefits in Accordance With the Workers' Compensation Act"

Amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

This bill will avoid an unbudgeted increase in costs to state agencies through increased workers' compensation payments and premiums beginning in fiscal year 2002-03. The total savings to state agencies can not be determined at this time but is estimated to be approximately \$7,600,000.

Based on an analysis by the National Council of Compensation Insurance, workers' compensation insurance rates in Maine will increase by 15% or more if this bill is not enacted. A 15% increase in the State's workers' compensation rate would increase costs to state agencies by approximately \$1,600,000 beginning in fiscal year 2002-03. Passage of this bill will prevent that increase.

The National Council of Compensation Insurance also estimates a significant cost to Maine's employers of applying the Court's ruling retroactively. The cost to the State as a result of the retroactive application is estimated to be approximately \$6,000,000. This bill will prevent that increase as well.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 822, L.D. 2202

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SUMMARY

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This amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT