



121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

S.P. 39

In Senate, January 21, 2003

No. 116

An Act To Require a Toll-free Telephone Number To Be Maintained by the Bureau of Unemployment Compensation

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

& OBrien

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRYANT of Oxford. Cosponsored by Senators: HATCH of Somerset, STANLEY of Penobscot, Representatives: CRESSEY of Baldwin, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, PATRICK of Rumford. **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, individuals in need of assistance from the Department of Labor, Bureau of Unemployment Compensation may be deterred from seeking that assistance by prohibitive costs of toll telephone calls; and

10 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of 12 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 14 safety; now, therefore,

16 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

18 Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1082, sub-§15 is enacted to read:

 20 15. Toll-free telephone line. The commissioner shall ensure that the bureau maintains and provides appropriate staff
22 to monitor a toll-free telephone line to direct individuals to the appropriate resources and personnel within the bureau.

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Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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SUMMARY

This bill requires the Commissioner of Labor to ensure that 32 the Bureau of Unemployment Compensation maintains and provides appropriate staff to monitor a toll-free telephone line to direct 34 individuals to the appropriate resources and personnel within the bureau.