

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MIN
R.O.S.

L.D. 550

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DATE: 4.15.03

(Filing No. S-54)

LABOR

Reported by: *Minority*

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 190, L.D. 550, Bill, "An Act Regarding Employment of Workers' Compensation Board Hearing Officers and Mediators"

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 §152, sub-§5, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. A, §8 and as affected by §§9 to 11, is amended to read:

B. The board may employ hearing officers and mediators to serve at the pleasure of the board and who are not subject to the Civil Service Law. They are entitled to receive reimbursement of their actual, necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, consistent with policies established by the board. The board shall enter into written agreements with hearing officers specifying the terms and conditions of employment, including specifying a term of employment of up to 3 years. The executive director shall evaluate the performance of hearing officers seeking reappointment and provide the evaluation and a recommendation on reappointment to the board. The executive director's report to the board must include the number of cases decided by that hearing officer that were appealed to the Law Court.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 190, L.D. 550

SUMMARY

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This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor. It replaces the bill. It provides that the Workers' Compensation Board continues as the appointing authority for hearing officers and mediators. It requires the board to enter into written agreements with hearing officers specifying the terms and conditions of their employment, including specifying the term of employment, which may be up to 3 years. The amendment also requires the executive director of the board to evaluate hearing officers before they are reappointed and to make a recommendation to the board regarding reappointment.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

Approved: 04/04/03 *MRC*

**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**



LD 550

**An Act Regarding Employment of Workers' Compensation Board
Hearing Officers and Mediators**

LR 1235(03)

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'B' S-54

Committee: Labor

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Minority

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds