

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MM

L.D. 880

DATE: 1-20-04

(Filing No. H-633)

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
121ST LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 657, L.D. 880, Bill, "An Act To Eliminate the Social Security Offset for Unemployment Benefits"

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 9-A in paragraph A by striking out all of subparagraph (1) (page 1, lines 18 and 19 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'(1) The individual is receiving a pension paid under the United States Social Security Act or any other pension or plan to which the individual made at least 50% of the contributions.'

Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 9-A in paragraph A by striking out all of subparagraph (3) (page 1, lines 26 to 34 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'(3) The services performed for the employer by the individual during the base period, or remuneration received for these services, did not affect the individual's eligibility for, or increase the amount of, that pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity or similar payment.'

SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies that a Social Security benefit is included among the category of pensions that are not offset against unemployment compensation benefits. It also makes a technical correction by deleting unnecessary language from the bill and revises a provision of the bill for greater clarity.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED  
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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



**LD 880**

**An Act to Eliminate the Social Security Offset for Unemployment Benefits**

**LR 0531(04)**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "**

**Committee: Labor**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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**Fiscal Note**

Undetermined current biennium cost increase - All Funds

Future biennium revenue increase - Other Funds

**Fiscal Detail and Notes**

The Department of Labor estimates this bill will increase benefits paid from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund beginning in fiscal year 2004-05. The amount can not be determined at this time. However, estimates developed by the Department of Labor using 2002 data indicate the increase in benefit costs to be approximately \$3,000,000. The cost increase in this bill would cause the anticipated change in the unemployment contributions schedule from E to D to occur one year later than the projections based on the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission Forecast of October 2003, resulting in an additional \$14.7 million being collected in 2009 and \$1.9 million in 2010. The State and all other direct reimbursement employers will be required to repay the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the additional benefit payments.