

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/14/6
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(Filing No. H- 828)

3
Labor

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6 **STATE OF MAINE**
7 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
8 **122ND LEGISLATURE**
9 **SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

10 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1206, L.D. 1699, Bill, "An Act To Improve Workplace Safety"

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

12 **'Resolve, To Direct the Department of Labor To Coordinate a Task Force To**
13 **Examine and Study Issues Relating to Workplace Safety and Workplace**
14 **Violence'**

15 Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting in its
16 place the following:

17 **'Sec. 1. Coordination of task force. Resolved:** That the Department of Labor
18 shall coordinate a task force to examine and study workplace safety and workplace
19 violence. Membership in the task force must be composed of a member of the family of a
20 workplace violence victim and one representative from each of the following:

- 21 1. The State Police;
- 22 2. The Maine Sheriffs' Association;
- 23 3. The Maine Women's Lobby;
- 24 4. The Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence;
- 25 5. The Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault;
- 26 6. The Maine Merchants' Association;
- 27 7. The New England Convenience Store Association;
- 28 8. The Maine Restaurant Association; and
- 29 9. The Maine AFL-CIO; and be it further

30 **Sec. 2. Task force study. Resolved:** That the task force under section 1,
31 assisted by the Department of Labor, shall study issues relating to the workplace in order
32 to improve safety and reduce workplace violence. As part of its study, the task force shall
33 review the laws and policies of other states and the Federal Government and any reports

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1206, L.D. 1699

1 or analyses regarding the effectiveness of laws and policies in other jurisdictions. The
2 study must include an examination of the following issues and any other issues the
3 department or a member of the task force determines appropriate:

4 1. The adequacy of current laws and standards that address workplace safety and
5 workplace violence and the need for, or benefit of, developing a comprehensive policy on
6 violence in the workplace that consolidates and supplements existing provisions of law in
7 order to improve safety and reduce violence in the workplace;

8 2. The need for, or benefit of, requiring the use of "panic buttons" or other security
9 systems in businesses open beyond regular business hours;

10 3. The need for, or benefit of, requiring the posting of laws and policies relating to
11 workplace safety and workplace violence in all places of employment; and

12 4. The need for, or benefit of, requiring notification to employees of laws and
13 policies relating to workplace safety and workplace violence and education and training
14 regarding workplace safety and workplace violence for all employees, particularly new
15 employees, and management; and be it further

16 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That the task force under section 1, assisted by the
17 Department of Labor, shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the
18 Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters by January 15, 2007 regarding the
19 study conducted pursuant to this resolve. The report must include findings,
20 recommendations and any proposed implementing legislation. The joint standing
21 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters may report out
22 legislation relating to the subject matter of the study to the First Regular Session of the
23 123rd Legislature.'

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve. The amendment
26 requires the Department of Labor to coordinate a task force to conduct a study of issues
27 relating to the workplace for the purpose of making recommendations for legislation to
28 improve workplace safety and reduce workplace violence. The amendment defines the
29 membership of the task force and requires it to submit a report to the joint standing
30 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters with its findings,
31 recommendations and any proposed implementing legislation.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1699

LR 2540(02)

An Act To Improve Workplace Safety

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

Committee: Labor

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Labor to coordinate and assist the task force in conducting the required study and issuing the required report can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted resources.