

ROBS	
1	L.D. 1725
2	Date: 4-10-12 (Filing No. S- 540)
3	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.
4	STATE OF MAINE
5	SENATE
6	125TH LEGISLATURE
7	SECOND REGULAR SESSION
8 9 10	SENATE AMENDMENT " A " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 589, L.D. 1725, Bill, "An Act To Strengthen the Unemployment Insurance Laws and Reduce Unemployment Fraud"
11 12 13	Amend the amendment on page 2 in the first indented paragraph in the last line (page 2, line 2 in amendment) by striking out the following: "12" and inserting the following: '12 $\underline{10}$ '
14 15 16	Amend the amendment on page 2 in the 2nd indented paragraph in the last line (page 2, line 5 in amendment) by striking out the following: "12" and inserting the following: $\frac{12}{12}$
17 18 19	Amend the amendment on page 2 in the 3rd indented paragraph in the first line (page 2, line 6 in amendment) by inserting after the following: "in L.D.)" the following: 'and inserting the following:
20 21	'Sec. 8. 26 MRSA §1193, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2009, c. 638, §1, is further amended to read:
22 23 24	5. Receiving remuneration. For any week with respect to which he the individual is receiving, is entitled has been scheduled to receive or has received remuneration following a period of separation in the form of:
25	A. Dismissal wages, wages in lieu of notice, terminal pay or holiday pay; or
26 27	A-1. Any vacation pay in an amount exceeding the equivalent of one week's wages for that individual; or
28 29	B. Benefits under the unemployment compensation or employment security law of any state or similar law of the United States.
30 31 32 33 34 35 36	If the remuneration under paragraph A is less than the benefits which that would otherwise be due under this chapter, he shall be the individual is entitled to receive for that week, if otherwise eligible, benefits reduced by the amount of the remuneration, rounded to the nearest lower full dollar amount. Earned vacation pay that is paid to the individual prior to the individual's being notified orally or in writing by the employer of the employer's intent to sever the employment relationship is not considered remuneration for purposes of this subsection;''

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6 7 SENATE AMENDMENT " **A** " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 589, L.D. 1725

SUMMARY

This amendment restores the change in the requirement that an individual must broaden the individual's work search after unemployment but changes the threshold to 10 weeks.

The amendment limits the offset for vacation pay to the amount that exceeds one week of wages for an individual and further excludes from the offset vacation pay that is paid to the individual prior to the individual's being notified by severance by the employer.

8 SPONSORED BY: 9 10 (Senator MARTIN) 11 **COUNTY: Kennebec**

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1725

An Act To Strengthen the Unemployment Insurance Laws and Reduce Unemployment Fraud

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "B" S - 540 Sponsor: Sen. Martin, Jr. of Kennebec Fiscal Note Required: Yes

LR 2554(07)

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium savings - Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund Potential future biennium revenue decrease - Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Including vacation pay that exceeds one week of an individual's wages as deductible income when calculating a claimant's unemployment compensation benefit will reduce costs to the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund in the current biennium beginning in fiscal year 2012-13 due to a decrease in benefit payments.

This reduction in benefits may potentially affect the contribution rate schedule in future biennia. The impact to all employers and the timing of the impact can not be determined at this time and will depend on the level of benefits paid, contributions received and the balance of the trust fund with the contribution schedule is calculated.

This amendment will reduce unemployment costs for executive branch departments and agencies that are in direct reimbursement status.