

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1464

S.P. 510

In Senate, April 18, 2017

An Act Regarding Unemployment Compensation for Full-time Seasonal Workers

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative WARD of Dedham and
Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, CUSHING of Penobscot, LANGLEY of Hancock,
ROSEN of Hancock, Representative: CAMPBELL of Orrington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1192, sub-§3, ¶B** is enacted to read:

3 B. Notwithstanding this subsection, beginning October 1, 2017, an individual who is
4 available for full-time work as required by this subsection is not disqualified from
5 receiving benefits if the individual has a verifiable guarantee of returning to
6 employment from the individual's most recent employer and:

7 (1) The individual's most recent employer offers or is providing the individual
8 full-time yearly benefits;

9 (2) The individual is not receiving vacation pay or other compensation from the
10 individual's most recent employer other than benefits under subparagraph (1); and

11 (3) The individual is available for recall to employment by the individual's most
12 recent employer.

13 Benefits must be terminated for an individual under this paragraph who refuses recall
14 to employment under subparagraph (3) or seeks employment from another employer.
15 An individual under this paragraph otherwise eligible for benefits is not required to
16 register for work under subsection 2 or to fulfill any other requirements to seek
17 employment or receive training under this chapter.

18 **Sec. 2. Rulemaking.** The Department of Labor shall adopt rules to implement this
19 Act, including defining requirements necessary to grant an individual the status of
20 holding a "verifiable guarantee" that the individual may return to employment. Rules
21 adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter
22 375, subchapter 2-A.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill allows an unemployed individual to receive unemployment benefits without
25 registering for work or looking for employment if the individual has a verifiable
26 guarantee to return to employment from the individual's most recent employer and the
27 individual is available for recall and is receiving full-time yearly benefits but is not
28 receiving vacation pay.