

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 523**

H. P. 957

House of Representatives, February 8, 1945.

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary, sent up for concurrence and 1000 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Peirce of Augusta.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT to Include Occupational Diseases Under the Workmen's  
Compensation Act.**

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

**R. S., c. 26, amended.** Chapter 26 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by inserting therein a new section to be numbered section 8-A, to read as follows :

**“Sec. 8-A. Occupational diseases covered; special provisions for silicosis. “Injury” as above defined shall include occupational disease, which shall be deemed to mean any disease or infection which naturally results from any particular employment. Ordinary diseases of life to which the general public is equally exposed outside of the employment are not compensable, except where such diseases follow as an incident of an occupational disease or where the occupation makes such disease an occupational disease hazard. For the purposes of this section, the last day of work for the last employer whose employment caused incapacity is to be treated as the “date of accident”.**

In cases of silicosis, no compensation shall be payable for partial incapacity except where such partial incapacity follows a compensable period of total incapacity. The only employer liable shall be the employer in whose employment the employee was last injuriously exposed to the haz-

ards of the disease during a period of 60 days or more after the effective date of this section. In case incapacity or death occurs within 5 years following said date, the amount of compensation shall be proportionate to the time during such period that employee was so exposed in this state.'