

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
95th LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 676, L. D. 408, Bill "An Act Designating Silicosis as an Occupational Disease."

Amend said Bill by inserting at the beginning thereof the underlined abbreviation and figure: 'Sec. 1.'

Further amend said Bill by adding at the end thereof the following:

"Sec. 2. R. S., c. 26, §§69-A, 69-B, additional. Chapter 26 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 2 new sections to be numbered sections 69-A and 69-B, to read as follows:

'Sec. 69-A. Special provisions relating to silicosis. In the absence of conclusive evidence in favor of the claim, disability or death from silicosis shall be presumed not to be due to the nature of any occupation, unless during the 10 years immediately preceding the date of disability the employee has been exposed to the inhalation of silica dust over a period of not less than 5 years, 2 years of which shall have been in this state, under a contract of employment existing in this state; provided, however, that if the employee shall have been employed by the same employer during the whole of such 5-year period, his right to compensation against such employer shall not be affected by the fact that he had been employed during any part of such period outside of this state. No compensation shall be payable for partial incapacity due to silicosis. The compensation payable in any such case shall be limited to a period not to exceed the average life expectancy of a person of the age and sex of the deceased. In the event of disability from silicosis the employer shall provide reasonable medical treatment not to exceed \$1,000 in amount.

Sec. 69-B. Addition of new occupational diseases not retroactive. When silicosis and any other new occupational disease is added to the list of compensable occupational diseases, the occupational disease law, including sections 58 and 65, shall apply thereto as if effective as of the effective date of the law making such addition.'"

Reported by the Committee on Labor.

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(Filing No. 139)

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