

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S I X T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 564

H. P. 526

House of Representatives, February 10, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Labor, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Couture of Lewiston

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-THREE

**AN ACT to Eliminate Double Penalties Under Employment Security
Law.**

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

R. S., c. 24, § 15, sub-§§ I, II, III, amended. Subsections I, II and III of section 15 of chapter 24 of the revised statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 430 of the public laws of 1949, are hereby amended to read as follows :

I. For the week in which he has left work voluntarily without good cause, if so found by the commission, and for not less than the 1 nor more than the 5 weeks which immediately follow such week ~~in addition to the waiting period~~ as determined by the commission according to the circumstances in each case ~~and his maximum benefit amount shall be reduced by an amount equivalent to the number of such weeks of disqualification times his weekly benefit amount ;~~

II. For the week in which he has been discharged for misconduct connected with his work, if so found by the commission, and for not less than the 1 nor more than the 9 weeks which immediately follow such week ~~in addition to the waiting period~~ as determined by the commission in each case, according to the seriousness of the misconduct ~~and his maximum benefit amount shall be reduced by an amount equivalent to the~~

~~number of such weeks of disqualification times his weekly benefit amount;~~

III. If the commission finds that he has failed, without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work when so directed by the employment office or the commission or to accept suitable work when offered him, or to return to his customary self employment, if any, when so directed by the commission. Such disqualification shall continue for the week in which such failure occurred and for not less than the 1 nor more than the 5 weeks which immediately follow such week ~~in addition to the waiting period~~ as determined by the commission according to the circumstances in each case ~~and his maximum benefit amount shall be reduced by an amount equivalent to the number of weeks of disqualification times his weekly benefit amount.~~

A. In determining whether or not any work is suitable for an individual, the commission shall consider the degree of risk involved to his health, safety and morals, his physical fitness and prior training, his experience and prior earnings, his length of unemployment and prospects for securing local work in his customary occupation, and the distance of the available work from his residence.

B. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter no work shall be deemed suitable and benefits shall not be denied under the provisions of this chapter to any otherwise eligible individual for refusing to accept new work under any of the following conditions:

1. If the position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, lockout or other labor dispute;
2. If the wages, hours or other conditions of work are substantially less favorable to the individual than those prevailing for similar work in the locality;
3. If as a condition of being employed the individual would be required to join a company union or to resign from or refrain from joining any bona fide labor organization.'