

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1181**

S. P. 412

In Senate, March 2, 1955

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Jamieson of Aroostook.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT Amending the Maine Employment Security Law as to Disqualifications  
for Benefits.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 29, § 15, sub-§ I, repealed and replaced.** Subsection I of section 15 of chapter 29 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**'I. For the period of unemployment next ensuing after he had left his employment voluntarily without good cause attributable to such employment, or with respect to a female claimant who has voluntarily left work to marry, or to perform the customary duties of a housewife, or to leave the locale to live with her husband, or to a claimant who has voluntarily removed himself from the labor market where presently employed to an area where employment opportunity is less frequent, if so found by the Commission, for 10 weeks in addition to the waiting period, and his maximum benefit amount shall be reduced by an amount equivalent to the number of such weeks of disqualification times his weekly benefit.'**

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 29, § 15, sub-§ II, amended.** Subsection II of section 15 of chapter 29 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'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 10 weeks which immediately follow such discharge, 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.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 29, § 15, sub-§ III, 1st ¶, repealed and replaced. The first paragraph of subsection III of section 15 of chapter 29 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**III.** If he has refused to accept an offer of work for which he is reasonably fitted, or has refused to accept a referral to a job opportunity when directed to do so by a local employment office of this State or another State, and the disqualification shall begin with the week in which the refusal occurred and shall continue for the duration of the period of unemployment during which such refusal occurred.'

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 29, § 15, sub-§ V, ¶ D, additional. Subsection V of section 15 of chapter 29 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding a new paragraph D to read as follows:

**D.** Retirement benefits from any fund to which the employer has paid approximately 50% of the contributions.'

Sec. 5. R. S., c. 29, § 15, sub-§ VI, 1st ¶, repealed and replaced. The first paragraph of subsection VI of section 15 of chapter 29 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**VI.** For a period of one year from the date on which he has made a false statement to the Commission or its Deputy for the purpose of obtaining benefits to which he was not lawfully entitled, but this disqualification shall not apply to cases in which it appears to the satisfaction of the Commission that the false statement was made by reason of a mistake or misunderstanding of law or of fact without fraudulent intent. The claimant shall have the right to a hearing, appeal or review by the Commission and appeal to the courts, as is provided by other provisions of this chapter.'

Sec. 6. R. S., c. 29, § 15, sub-§ VII, additional. Section 15 of chapter 29 is amended by adding a new subsection VII to read as follows:

**VII.** For the period of unemployment next ensuing with respect to which he was discharged for conviction of felony or misdemeanor in connection with his work. The ineligibility of such individual shall continue for all weeks subsequent until such individual has thereafter earned not less than \$400 in employment.'