

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 5, 1984 to June 20, 1985
Chapters 384-End

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

November 13, 1985

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REVISOR OF STATUTES IN
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.
Augusta, Maine
1985

**PRIVATE AND
SPECIAL LAWS**

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

1985

CHAPTER 63

H.P. 112 - L.D. 137

AN ACT Concerning Safety and Sanitary Conditions on Railroad Property.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there is a need to examine the occupational health and safety of railroad workers to determine if conditions warrant the enactment of state standards to insure the health and safety of railroad employees; and

Whereas, the Department of Labor has extensive expertise in the occupational health and safety of public sector employees and is fully knowledgeable regarding generally accepted safety and health practices in the workplace; and

Whereas, numerous instances of unsafe or unsanitary working conditions on railroad property have been brought to the attention of the Legislature; and

Whereas, at this time the jurisdiction for enforcement of occupational health and safety standards to protect railroad employees is either unclear or not being fully enforced; and

Whereas, there is a need to conduct a study to determine if the health and safety of railroad workers are being jeopardized and, if so, whether legislation is necessary to protect those workers; and

Whereas, in the judgement of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

1. Commissioner of Labor to conduct study. The Commissioner of Labor shall conduct a study of the occupational health and safety conditions to which railroad employees are subject. The Commissioner of

Labor or his designee shall have the authority to inspect railroad property to determine if unsafe or hazardous conditions exist.

2. Report to Legislative Committee. The Commissioner of Labor shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor during the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature with respect to the following:

- A. The occupational safety and health conditions to which railroad employees are subject;
- B. Efforts of any federal or state agency to establish and enforce occupational health and safety standards for railroad employers;
- C. The need for state standards to protect the health and safety of railroad employees on railroad property and in railroad rolling stock; and
- D. Recommendations for legislation which would assure the protection of the health and safety of railroad employees if that legislation is necessary.

3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$1,500 for fiscal year ending June 30, 1985, for the purposes of carrying out this Act. Any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall remain in a continuing carrying account until February 1, 1986.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective June 27, 1985.

CHAPTER 64

H.P. 552 - L.D. 824

AN ACT Concerning Access to Medical Care for Persons without Adequate Health Insurance.

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

Sec. 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that