

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 3, 2008 to June 13, 2009

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

Augusta, Maine
2009

Services any amendments or waivers needed to establish any part of a consolidated program, including a program of consumer-directed care described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 1622.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 280

H.P. 649 - L.D. 946

An Act To Reverse the Effects of Grant v. Central Maine Power, Inc. on Workers' Compensation

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

Sec. 1. 39-A MRSA §205, sub-§9, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. A, §8 and affected by §§9 to 11, is amended to read:

B. In all circumstances other than the return to work or increase in pay of the employee under paragraph A, if the employer, insurer or group self-insurer determines that the employee is not eligible for compensation under this Act, the employer, insurer or group self-insurer may discontinue or reduce benefits only in accordance with this paragraph.

(1) If no order or award of compensation or compensation scheme has been entered, the employer, insurer or group self-insurer may discontinue or reduce benefits by sending a certificate by certified mail to the employee and to the board, together with any information on which the employer, insurer or group self-insurer relied to support the discontinuance or reduction. The employer may discontinue or reduce benefits no earlier than 21 days from the date the certificate was mailed to the employee, except that benefits paid pursuant to section 212, subsection 1 or section 213, subsection 1 may be discontinued or reduced based on the amount of actual documented earnings paid to the employee during the 21-day period if the employer files with the board the documentation or evidence that substantiates the earnings and the employer only reduces or discontinues benefits for any week for which it possesses evidence of such earning. The certificate must advise the employee of the date when the employee's benefits will be discontinued or reduced, as well as other information as prescribed by the board, including the employee's appeal rights.

(2) If an order or award of compensation or compensation scheme has been entered, the

employer, insurer or group self-insurer shall petition the board for an order to reduce or discontinue benefits and may not reduce or discontinue benefits until the matter has been finally resolved through the dispute resolution procedures of this Act, any appeal proceedings have been completed and an order of reduction or discontinuance has been entered by the board. Upon the filing of a petition, the employer may discontinue or reduce the weekly benefits being paid pursuant to section 212, subsection 1 or section 213, subsection 1 based on the amount of actual documented earnings paid to the employee after filing the petition. The employer shall file with the board the documentation or evidence that substantiates the earnings and the employer may discontinue or reduce weekly benefits only for weeks for which the employer possesses evidence of such earnings.

Sec. 2. Retroactivity. This Act applies retroactively to all injuries including pending cases and cases on appeal.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 281

S.P. 224 - L.D. 609

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Involuntary Hospitalization Procedures

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §2211-A, sub-§3-A is enacted to read:

3-A. Authorization of hospitalization. When a person who is hospitalized in a psychiatric hospital under the provisions of Title 34-B, chapter 3 is sentenced to serve a straight term of imprisonment or a split sentence in a county jail, the person must remain hospitalized as long as continued hospitalization is appropriate under Title 34-B, chapter 3. The sheriff shall promptly process the person to initiate execution of the sentence in a manner that disrupts the person's hospitalization as little as possible. The provisions of this section apply as if the person had been transferred to the hospital after beginning serving the sentence at the county jail.

Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §3861-A is enacted to read:

§3861-A. Notification of hospitalization

When a person who is hospitalized in a psychiatric hospital under the provisions of this chapter is sen-