

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1986

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

disabled, the period was up to one year. When this extended coverage expires, the employees may still convert to an individual policy as provided under current law. It was also clarified that the bill did not prevent employees from bargaining for or receiving more coverage than required under the bill, nor were employers required to provide the group coverage option for longer than the 6-month or one-year periods.

LD 2274 AN ACT TO AMEND THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT TO REQUIRE PREPAYMENT FOR MEDICAL AIDS AND TO MAKE CORRECTIONS RELATING TO FOREIGN EMPLOYEES PL 1985 c. 729

Sponsor: MARTIN, J.
Committee Report: New draft of LD 2098

H-625 HA H S
S-466 SA H S

SUMMARY: L.D. 2098 was so poorly drafted nobody could make any sense out of it.

L.D. 2274 had 2 major purposes. First, it made the payment of medical aids part of the early-pay system under the Workers' Compensation Act. Second, it enacted several provisions dealing with foreign workers. It created a presumption that for residents of a foreign country that has a socialized medical program, that program would pay for the medical expenses associated with the treatment of a work-related injury suffered in Maine. The insurer would be responsible only for reimbursing the socialized medical program for those expenses; it would not be directly liable to the health care provider who performed the services. It also allowed workers' compensation benefits to be cut off if, because of residency in a foreign country, the injured worker refused an offer of suitable work or refused to comply with the conditions of a rehabilitation program.

House Amendment "A" (H-625) clarified that the presumption of payment of an injured worker's medical costs applies only to the socialized medical programs of jurisdictions located outside the United States.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-466) deleted the portion of the bill which allowed a foreign employee's workers' compensation benefits to be cut off before a hearing and final decision on a petition for review under 39 MRSA §100.