

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

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. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted 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 "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

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

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

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-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE
855 WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

PL 1987
c. 452
EMERGENCY

Sponsor: MICHAUD; Willey, Begley, Foster
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
H-64 COMMITTEE
H-75 MCHENRY

SUMMARY: LD 855 proposed to add an additional workers' compensation commissioner to make a total of 10 commissioners.

The Committee Amendment (H-64) added an appropriation section to the bill.

The House Amendment (H-75) made the bill an emergency and adjusted the appropriation accordingly.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT
861 INSURANCE BY WORKERS IN THE KNITTED OUTERWEAR
INDUSTRY

LVWD

Sponsor: SIMPSON, Rand, Joseph
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 861 proposed to make an unemployment tax exemption for home knitters, enacted in 1986, retroactive to January 1, 1982.

LD AN ACT TO INCREASE THE FAMILY ALLOWANCE OF THE
875 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW

ONTP

Sponsor: PRIEST, Michaud, Clark H, Usher
Committee Report: ONTP

SUMMARY: LD 875 proposed to increase the family allowance provided for unemployment compensation recipients from \$5/week for each child, to \$20/week for each child.

LD AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE DISCRIMINATION PROVISION
899 OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT SO THAT
INJURED WORKERS MAY PURSUE THEIR RIGHTS WITHOUT
FEAR OF PUNISHMENT BY THEIR EMPLOYERS

LVWD

Sponsor: MICHAUD, Priest, Clark H, Usher
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 899 proposed to amend the anti-discrimination provision of the Workers' Compensation Act to increase

potential damages to include triple back wages and any other financial losses resulting from the discrimination. The bill also attempted to describe the actions taken by an employer that would constitute discrimination.

LD AN ACT TO EXTEND THE FREEZE ON MAXIMUM WEEKLY PL 1987
916 BENEFITS UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT c. 156

Sponsor: EMERSON, Twitchell,
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
S-59 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: LD 916 proposed to extend the current freeze on the maximum level of workers' compensation weekly benefits for an additional 3 years until July 1, 1990.

The Committee Amendment (S-59) reduced the extension to one month, from July 1, 1988 to August 1, 1988.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE AMOUNT OF EXTENDED BENEFITS LVWD
929 UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW

Sponsor: WILLEY, Emerson, Twitchell
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 929 proposed to reduce the state's share of any extended unemployment benefits paid by the state in the same proportion as the Federal Government reduced its share of the benefits under the Gramm-Rudman Act.

LD AN ACT TO PROVIDE DUE PROCESS IN UNEMPLOYMENT CARRY-OVER
1029 INSURANCE APPEALS

Sponsor: MARTIN, Dutremble, McHenry
Committee Report: CARRY-OVER

SUMMARY: LD 1029 proposed to change the current appeals process within the Bureau of Employment Security. The bill creates a new office of Administrative Law Judges to hear and decide appeals from decisions of the deputies in unemployment compensation cases; this office would assume the function currently performed by Appeal Tribunals within the Bureau of Employment Security. The bill further removes the Appeals Division of the Bureau of Employment Security to place it under the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission, an independent entity with its own budget, subject to initial approval of the Commissioner of Labor.