

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**



**BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

JULY 1989

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* Denotes Chair

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

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 for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

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COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-239

SUMMARY

LD 929 proposed to repeal the requirement that "medical-only" claims be filed with the Workers' Compensation Commission. It also clarified that an employer's failure to file a notice of controversy for a "medical-only" claim did not require the employer to pay for future incapacity due to the same injury and further clarified that an employee remained eligible to claim benefits for later incapacity due to the same injury for the full 10 years under the general workers' compensation statute of limitations if the employer paid for the employee's medical expenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-239) made minor drafting corrections to the bill; reduced the time period within which an employer must pay a medical bill or file a notice of controversy from 90 to 75 days; and added a fiscal note.

Also see PL 1989, c. 501, (the errors bill) which makes an additional technical correction in the change from 90 to 75 days for payment of medical bills.

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COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-231 MAJ REP

SUMMARY

LD 996 proposed that no injunction could be issued in a labor dispute unless the complainant showed that the police were unwilling or unable to adequately protect his property and that he had complied with all legal obligations involved in the labor dispute and had made every reasonable effort to settle the dispute. The LD also provided that no union or union official could be found liable for individual union members' actions unless it was shown by clear proof that the union had participated in, authorized or ratified those acts.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-231) restricted the obligation to attempt to settle the dispute by striking out the word "every" before the words "reasonable effort" and added an application section to ensure that the LD will not apply to pending actions.