

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR
JUNE 1990

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**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee
Bill Summaries**

June 1990

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. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP
OTP-ND
OTP-ND-NT
OTP-A
ONTP
LVWD
INDEF PP

Ought to Pass
Ought to Pass in New Draft
Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
Ought to Pass as Amended
Ought Not to Pass
Leave to Withdraw
Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, 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.

2. Reduced the threshold number of employees from 250 to 50;
3. Permitted the Bureau of Labor Standards to contract with private parties to conduct the inspection and further provided that all costs of the inspection were to be paid by the facility operator; and
4. Made several other minor changes to the original LD.

Committee Amendment "C" was the minority report of the committee and provided for an inspection of a facility using hazardous substances when more than 1/2 of the employees who were assigned to handle those substances had worked in that capacity for less than 6 months. The inspection was coordinated by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and was intended to determine compliance with existing legal requirements related to the use of hazardous substances.

LD 1871 **An Act to Limit Apportionment of Workers' Compensation Liability** **LV/WD**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
RAND	LV/WD	
MATTHEWS		
REED		
BUTLAND		

SUMMARY

LD 1871 proposed to resolve workers' compensation apportionment claims by simply dividing liability on a pro rata basis among the various insurers or employers. It also prevented any reapportionment if the later injury occurred more than 2 years after an earlier injury for which apportionment would otherwise be due.

LD 1880 **An Act to Increase Death Benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act** **PUBLIC 897**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
SMITH	OTP-AM	H-786
MATTHEWS		
MCHENRY		
LUTHER		

SUMMARY

LD 1880 proposed to increase the workers' compensation burial allowance from "up to \$1,000" to "up to \$5,000" and also increase the incidental compensation paid as a result of an employee's death from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-786) increased the burial allowance to a maximum of \$4,000 and increased the incidental compensation to \$3,000. It also provided that the burial reimbursement would be paid to the person responsible for the funeral costs and the incidental compensation would be paid to the employee's estate.