

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

AUGUST 1991

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were 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.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

SPONSOR(S)
BRAWN
ALIBERTI

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill required that employers give employees at least 2 weeks' notice of their intention to terminate employment.

An Act to Provide Individual and Family Health Insurance Coverage and Pension Coverage for Injured Workers

SPONSOR(S)
CONLEY
MCCORMICK

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill related to the Ashby case. It defined benefits as including, but not limited to, family health insurance and pension and retirement benefits. It excluded from the average weekly wage calculation fringe benefits of the injured employee if the employer continues to provide individual and family health insurance coverage, pension coverage and continuing contributions to the injured worker and worker's family.

An Act to Encourage the Prompt Resolution of Workers' Compensation Claims

SPONSOR(S)
MCHENRY
ESTY
PINEAU
LUTHER

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill allowed imposition of a 50% surcharge on workers' compensation awards when the commissioner finds the notice of controversy was not filed in good faith. Good faith did not include insufficient information to decide whether to contest unless the information was unavailable due to circumstances beyond the control of the employer.

An Act to Extend the Jurisdiction of the Maine Labor Relations Board to Public Employees Who Have Been Employed Less Than 6 Months

SPONSOR(S)
OLIVER
CONLEY
MCKEEN
RAND

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

Under the current law governing state, judicial, University of Maine System, Maine Technical College System and municipal public employees, any person who has been employed for less than 6 months is