

# 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:

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

**LD 1446****An Act to Reduce the Caseload of the Workers' Compensation Commission****ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
AIKMAN  
CARPENTER

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill required that a request for payment for workers' compensation medical services be submitted on a form approved by the commission and contain all medical information to permit evaluation of the reasonableness and compensability of the services provided. It amended the 44-day rule by changing the number of days to 45 and by beginning the time period to the receipt by the employer of medical records required to make a determination of whether to pay or controvert. It excepted from this subsection provisional payments made without prejudice at the informal conference with the permission of the commissioner. It permitted payment of benefits without prejudice. It changed the waiting period for compensation for incapacity to work from 3 days to 5 days. It changed informal conference procedures to provide that the commissioner shall require the employee to provide timely medical reports prior to informal conference. It allowed provisional payments and provided for their continuation and termination in the event of a notice of controversy by the employee or employer. It required the employer to keep records of injury and, if it results in loss of work of 5 days, required a report to the commission within 12 days after notice or knowledge of injury. It amended the definition of prevail to account for provisional payments.

**LD 1467****An Act to Clarify Job Titles in the Workers' Compensation Act****ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
FARNSWORTH

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill amended the Workers' Compensation Act to bring two recent job reclassifications into line with changes instituted by the Bureau of Human Resources.

**LD 1468****An Act to Prevent Unfair Employment Hiring Practices****LV/WD**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
RUHLIN  
PINEAU  
ESTY  
MCHENRY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
LV/WD

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

The recently enacted Sunday sales laws prohibited certain employers from requiring employees to work on Sunday. This bill provided that it is illegal for those employers to ask potential employees questions concerning availability for Sunday work. The Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards was required to enforce this provision.