

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
LABOR AND HOUSING**

July 2022

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## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING

### **LD 449 An Act To Strengthen the Ability of Public Employers and Teachers' Unions To Negotiate**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Current law provides that the obligation of a public employer and a bargaining agent to bargain collectively includes their mutual obligation to meet within 10 days after receipt of written notice from the other party requesting a meeting for collective bargaining purposes, as long as the parties have not otherwise agreed in a prior written contract.

Public Law 2021, chapter 752 removes the exception to meet as long as the parties have not otherwise agreed in a prior written contract only for public employers that are school districts and the bargaining agents for teachers within those districts.

The law also provides funding to avoid a potential unfunded state mandate and requires the Department of Education to develop a process to reimburse school districts affected by the requirement to bargain for 90% of those school districts' legal and other costs incurred as a result of the requirement to bargain.

### **LD 460 Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor To Convene a Stakeholder Group To Examine Workforce Development Issues in the Hospitality and Food and Beverage Industries**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 165 directs the Department of Labor to convene a stakeholder group to examine workforce development issues in the hospitality industry and the food and beverage industry. The stakeholder group must submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters no later than January 1, 2023. The committee may report out a bill to the 131st Legislature in 2023 related to these matters.

### **LD 575 An Act To Establish a Conditional Presumption of Compensability for Certain Employees in Cases of Impairment from Hypertension or Heart Disease**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 730 establishes a rebuttable presumption under the workers' compensation laws that an employee of the State whose regular or incidental duties require the care, supervision or custody of a person confined in a prison or state correctional facility pursuant to an order of a court or as a result of an arrest and who contracts heart disease or hypertension has contracted the heart disease or hypertension in the course of employment and as a result of that employment, that sufficient notice of the heart disease or hypertension has been given and that the heart disease or hypertension was not occasioned by any willful act of that employee to cause the heart disease or hypertension, as long as the employee successfully passed a physical examination upon entry