

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND TWELVE

H.P. 1352 - L.D. 1832

**An Act To Increase the Amount of Time an Employer May Employ an
Employee without Being Charged for Unemployment Benefits**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1221, sub-§3, ¶C, as amended by PL 1965, c. 381, §19, is further amended to read:

C. For the purposes of paragraph A, the experience rating record of the most recent subject employer ~~shall~~ may not be charged with benefits paid to a claimant whose work record with such employer totaled ~~5~~ 6 consecutive weeks or less of total or partial employment, but in such case the most recent subject employer with whom claimant's work record exceeded ~~5~~ 6 consecutive weeks of total or partial employment ~~shall~~ must be charged, if such employer would have otherwise been chargeable had not subsequent employment intervened.

This paragraph is repealed March 14, 2014.

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §1221, sub-§3, ¶C-1 is enacted to read:

C-1. Beginning March 14, 2014, for the purposes of paragraph A, the experience rating record of the most recent subject employer may not be charged with benefits paid to a claimant whose work record with such employer totaled 5 consecutive weeks or less of total or partial employment, but in such case the most recent subject employer with whom the claimant's work record exceeded 5 consecutive weeks of total or partial employment must be charged, if such employer would have otherwise been chargeable had not subsequent employment intervened.

Sec. 3. Report. The Commissioner of Labor shall submit a report by December 15, 2013 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters on the effect of the change made pursuant to this Act, specifically with regard to increasing the number of weeks to 6 for which an individual can work for an employer before the employer becomes potentially chargeable for unemployment benefits paid upon separation of that work. In addition to reporting the total impact of the change to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, the report must include the impact on the number of employers affected and on prior employers who are charged for any ensuing benefits as a result of this change, as well as the impact on all employers if the costs are

spread out among all employers. The commissioner shall include any employer comments received pertaining to this change.

The joint standing committee is authorized to introduce a bill related to the commissioner's report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Sec. 4. Effective date. That section of this Act that enacts the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1221, subsection 3, paragraph C-1 takes effect March 14, 2014.

In House of Representatives, 2012

Read twice and passed to be enacted.

..... Speaker

In Senate, 2012

Read twice and passed to be enacted.

..... President

Approved 2012

..... Governor