

WORKERS' COMPENSATION LEGISLATION UPDATE – 5/29/19

LD 756 An Act To Improve the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 (Omnibus bill to change Workers' Compensation Laws)



Despite our sincerely held position that the Maine workers' compensation system is adequately balanced and not broken, the Democrats on the Labor & Housing Committee have voted to send an extremely bad bill on for additional votes in the House and Senate. To be clear, they did have the option to pass a bill with components that would also have increased costs, just not by as much. They chose the option that was much more expensive.

To sum it up, there are three versions of workers' comp. reform that have been seriously discussed:

1. The unacceptable version of the bill that passed that will add **SIGNIFICANT** costs to the system and undo all of the 1992 reforms that made Maine the most expensive system in the country.
2. A version of a bill that would have added **moderate** cost increases to the system.
3. A minority report option supported by the Republicans that would add some benefit costs to the system, but would require offsetting system improvements to make the changes closer to cost-neutral in an effort to preserve the current balance.

This communication is a call-to-action for those in the business community who have a stake in the Maine economy. **We need you to inundate your elected officials with phone calls and emails and educate them on the impact of significantly higher workers' compensation costs should LD 756 (in its current form) be passed into law.**

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATOR AND YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE – THOSE THAT REPRESENT WHERE YOU LIVE AND WHERE YOUR BUSINESS IS LOCATED!

Find your Senator by clicking [HERE](#)

<http://legislature.maine.gov/senate/find-your-state-senator/9392>

Find your Representative by clicking [HERE](#)

<http://legislature.maine.gov/house/house/MemberProfiles/ListAlpha>

Contact Governor Mills by phone at (207) 287-3531 or through her online contact form [HERE](#)

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/contact>

When communicating with your elected officials, we ask that you copy MMTA (bparke@mmta.com) so that we can gauge the volume and effectiveness of this call-to-action. If you talk with them, please let us know and then follow up with them so they know just how important this issue is to your business and your employees!

[CLICK HERE FOR A LIST OF TALKING POINTS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR MYTHS VS FACTS \(coming soon\)](#)