

131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 727

S.P. 285

In Senate, February 16, 2023

An Act Regarding Workers' Compensation Benefits for First **Responders Injured in the Line of Duty**

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, CURRY of Waldo, DUSON of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: SALISBURY of Westbrook, STOVER

of Boothbay, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

Sec. 1. 39-A MRSA §102, sub-§4, ¶E-1 is enacted to read:

E-1. When an employee is employed as a first responder and is injured performing the duties of that employment and is also employed at an additional place of employment, the employee's average weekly wages are computed by combining the wages, earnings or salary received by the employee from each place of employment. For the purposes of this paragraph, "first responder" means a law enforcement officer as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 17, a firefighter as defined in Title 17-A, section 752-E, subsection 2 or an emergency medical care provider as defined in Title 17-A, section 752-C, subsection 2.

11 SUMMARY

 This bill amends the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 to provide that if an employee employed as a first responder is injured and is also employed at an additional place of employment, the employee's average weekly wages are computed by combining the wages, earnings or salary received by the employee from each place of employment.