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Legislative Document

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H.P. 93

House of Representatives, January 21, 2021

An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 19, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Labor and Housing pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative GROHOSKI of Ellsworth.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §809, sub-§7, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 218, §1, is amended
3 to read:

4 B. The employee presents a copy of the policy described in paragraph A to the
5 employer ~~upon~~ within 30 days of notifying the employer of the employee's status as a
6 firefighter or emergency medical services person ~~within 30 days of employment or~~
7 ~~within 180 days of the effective date of this subsection.~~

8 **SUMMARY**

9 Current law requires that, in order to avoid being subject to discharge or discipline for
10 failure to report for work or being absent when responding to an emergency, an employee
11 who is also a firefighter or emergency medical services person must have presented to the
12 employer within 30 days of employment a copy of a fire department or emergency medical
13 services provider policy that specifies the circumstances under which the employee is
14 needed to respond to an emergency and that affirms that the employee will be released as
15 soon as practicable.

16 This bill removes the requirement that the employee present the copy within 30 days
17 of employment and instead requires that the employee present the copy within 30 days of
18 notifying the employer of the employee's status as a firefighter or emergency medical
19 services person.