

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

**Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** the number of applications for training waivers to the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission has increased dramatically in 2013 because the only path for many citizens to receive their unemployment benefits requires their participation in commission-approved training; and

**Whereas,** the commission does not possess adequate staff to efficiently process both the training waiver case load and its normal case load despite the use of mechanisms such as overtime; and

**Whereas,** training waiver cases are inherently time-sensitive because claimants rely upon their unemployment benefits to pay for necessities of daily living, such as food, medicine and shelter, and failure to quickly process training waiver cases can result in citizens' having inadequate funds for these critical items; and

**Whereas,** the backlog of training waiver cases has increased substantially since submission of this legislation; and

**Whereas,** if this legislation is not enacted as an emergency, the backlog of training waiver cases will increase and adversely affect even more unemployment claimants; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 6 in the 2nd and 3rd lines from the end (page 1, lines 14 and 15 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "The commission has appellate jurisdiction over these cases on appeal from the deputy."

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 6-C in the first paragraph in the last 2 lines (page 1, lines 25 and 26 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "The commission has appellate jurisdiction over these cases on appeal from the deputy."

Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

## SUMMARY

This amendment changes the bill by not extending appellate jurisdiction to the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission. Both original and appellate jurisdiction for approval of training not approved by the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 will be within the Department of Labor.

This amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**