



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 1976

S.P. 678

In Senate, January 8, 2020

An Act To Help Retain School Bus Drivers

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator WOODSOME of York.
Cosponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham and
Representative: O'CONNOR of Berwick.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1192, sub-§14**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 453, §4, is amended
3 to read:

4 **14. Temporary unemployment; work search.** Notwithstanding any other
5 provisions of this chapter to the contrary, any otherwise eligible individual who is
6 temporarily laid off by an employer that has given that individual a definite recall date
7 may not be denied benefits for any week based on the individual's failure to meet the
8 requirements of subsection 2 or 3 for a period of 6 weeks during that temporary layoff, so
9 long as the individual remains in contact with and able and available to work for that
10 employer.

11 This subsection applies to a person employed as a school bus driver for a public or private
12 educational institution whose employer has set a definite recall date of not more than 12
13 weeks from the date of the temporary layoff.

14 An individual may not receive more than 6 weeks of benefits in a benefit year pursuant to
15 this subsection unless approved by the Department of Labor.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill exempts a school bus driver who has been temporarily laid off from work
18 search requirements in the unemployment compensation laws for up to 6 weeks if the
19 driver's employer sets a definite recall date of not more than 12 weeks from the date of
20 the temporary layoff.