# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Mary Mahiew 623-3787

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# Christian Science Committee on Publication for Maine

RALPH H. BARNES RD | • BOX 316 • ROCKPORT, ME 04856 236-2584

May 1, 1992

Ms Michelle Bushey Blue Ribbon Commission on Workers' Compensation University of Maine - School of Law 246 Deering Avenue Portland, ME 04102

Dear Ms Bushey,

I am writing in response to our phone conversation this morning to respectfully request that provisions in the present Workers' Compensation Act relating to spiritual healing be retained in the final recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission study.

I have attached a copy of the existing provisions.

I am sure the Commission's financial experience under these categories are minimal, even miniscule, but they serve to accomodate those workers who in good faith rely upon this method of healing and rehabilitation.

I am sure the record will indicate no abuse of these provisions.

I would be pleased to offer short testimony on this request at any point in the Blue Ribbon Commission's study.

If you have a mailing list for interested parties relating to public meetings and other information, I would appreciate being placed on it.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ralph H. Barnes

Christian Science Committee on Publication for Maine



# Christian Science Committee on Publication for Maine

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# References to treatment by prayer or spiritual means in Maine Workers' Compensation Act

#### 39 MRSA, @ 52.

"Upon request of an employee, the employer may establish a program to pay for treatment by prayer or spiritual means by an accredited practitioner."

#### 39 MRSA, @65.

"Nothing in this act may be construed to require an employee who in good faith relies on treatment by prayer or spiritual means, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination, by a duly accredited practitioner of those healing methods, to undergo any medical or surgical treatment. Such an employee or his dependents may not be deprived of any compensation payments to which he would be entitled if medical or surgical treatments were employed."

## BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TO EXAMINE ALTERNATIVES TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SYSTEM University of Maine School of Law 246 Deering Avenue Portland, Maine 04102

Members of the Commission:

Richard B. Dalbeck William D. Hathaway Emilien Levesque Harvey Picker

May 5, 1992

Ralph H. Barnes Christian Science Committee on Publication for Maine RD 1, Box 316 Rockport, Maine 04856

Dear Mr. Barnes:

Thank you very much for your interest in testifying before the Blue Ribbon Commission. Unfortunately, the Commission has a full schedule at this time and will be unable to hear from you in person. The Commissioners encourage you to submit any written testimony or information that you would like them to consider when making their decisions.

Once again, thank you for your interest in this very important topic.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Michelle E. Bushey Staff to Blue Ribbon Commission

### PRETI, FLAHERTY, BELIVEAU & PACHIOS

#### ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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ROBERT F. PRETI ROBERT W. SMITH DAVID B. VAN SLYKE

May 1, 1992

Ms. Michelle Bushey
Workers' Compensation Blue
Ribbon Commission
University of Maine School of Law
246 Deering Avenue
Portland, ME 04101

Dear Ms. Bushey:

It is our understanding that you are in charge of scheduling presentations before the Blue Ribbon Commission. Please accept this letter as a request of the American Insurance Association to make such a presentation. The American Insurance Association is the largest association of property casualty insurers in the Its members are particularly active in the field United States. of workers' compensation. Currently two of the three major carriers actively involved in the State of Maine (Maine Bonding and Commercial Union) are AIA members. Historically, with the exception of Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and Hanover, virtually all of the insurers actively involved in Maine workers' compensation over the last decade have been AIA companies. has been extremely active in legislative review of the workers' compensation system and its member companies have participated in various cases which have defined the scope and breadth of ratemaking aspects of the workers' compensation law.

Please advise regarding available dates before the Commission. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,.

Bruce C. Gerrit

BCG/rgy 1725/AS8 call to dule on y

tanover Ins.

CHARLES C. SOLTAN ATTORNEY AT LAW

Debbie Hart

10:00

VERRILL & DANA

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
45 MEMORIAL CIRCLE
P. O. BOX 957
AUGUSTA, MAINE D4332-0957
(207) 623-3889

ONE PORTLAND SOUARE
P. O. BOX 586
PORTLAND, MAINE 04112
(207) 774-4000

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Dick Johnson Call to whening Dick Johnson Call schepkning This Dept of for 11 the Ins Dept of for 11 the 12 (# from Abboy)

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Bureavol Insurance Dick Johnson, Supt. 10:30-12:00 May 11th

RICHARD B. DALBECK, CLU

V call to schedule date/time 5/11 1-2 pm

## MAINE COUNCIL OF SELF-INSURERS

May 4, 1992

Blue Ribbon Commission to Examine Alternatives to the Workers' Compensation System c/o Michelle Bushey 246 Deering Avenue University of Maine Law School Portland, ME 04102

Dear Ms. Bushey:

The Maine Council of Self-Insurers requests that an opportunity be provided for it to make a presentation to the Blue Ribbon Commission. The Self-Insurance perspective is important not only because self-insurance represents a premium market share equal or greater than the residual market but also because self-insurers have found ways to make Maine's comp system work better than in the insured experience.

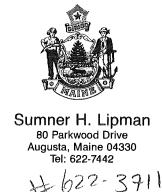
The Council wishes to provide background information critical to public policy decisions and it also is anxious to set forth specific policy recommendations. The Council recognizes that the Commission has a need to move beyond fact finding and deal with the business of formulating policy recommendations. We believe we can be of assistance in this regard.

Please advise as to your response to this request.

Sincerely,

John G. Melrose Executive Director

JGM:jm



## House of Representatives

State House Augusta 04333-0002 289-1400

May 11, 1992

ATTENTION: Michelle Bushey Blue Ribbon Commission University of Maine 246 Deering Ave. Portland, Maine 04102

Dear Michelle:

We have tried on several occasions but have been unable to reach each other by phone. I am currently a legislator and have been involved in the various Workers' Compensation reform bills. I would like very much for an opportunity to appear before the Blue Ribbon Commission if possible.

I thank you.

Very truly yours,

Sumner H. Lipman

SHL/jas

Was called + asked to submit worther test mony

## LIPMAN AND KATZ, P.A.

COUNSELLORS AT LAW 72 WINTHROP STREET P.O. BOX 1051 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04332-1051

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TELEPHONE (207) 622-3711

FAX (207) 622-7415

May 15, 1992

Blue Ribbon Commission University of Maine 246 Deering Avenue Portland, ME 04102 Att: Tammy Snow

Dear Tammy:

This is to confirm that I will be showing up to testify before the Blue Ribbon Commission on May 26, 1992 at 11:00 am. I am looking forward to the opportunity to share my thoughts with the Commission and answer their questions.

I want to thank you for your cooperation in scheduling the meeting.

Best regards,

Sumner H. Lipman

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### COMPENSATION CONSULTANTS, INC.

June 04, 1992

The Blue Ribbon Commission to examine Alternatives to the Workers' Compensation system c/o UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SCHOOL OF LAW 246 Deering Street Portland, ME 04102

RE: Request for appearance before Commission.

#### Gentlemen:

As the owner of a small business, and as a student of Workers' Compensation schemes, I would appreciate the opportunity of addressing the Commission for a short period of time in order to provide my thoughts and ideas on the situation at hand.

By way of backgroung I have been involved in Workers' Compensation schemes and Employee Benefit programs for the past 27 years. I have worked in 12 different states in two different sections of the country. The last 12 years were worked here in Maine. I have written training courses and taught in both areas.

I do not represent any particular group nor am I affiliated with either political party. I represent only myself. My presentation would not be of a formal nature, but rather would be of an informal nature providing you with some ideas on reform of the Act and on some alternatives, all of which I believe will be useful to you as you go about preparing your report.

Looking forward to you reply, I remain,

Sincerely,

A. Franklin Wheat 26 Farnell Drive

A Franklin Wheat

Yarmouth, Maine 04096

Tel: 846-3053 Fax: 846-6784