



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 140

H.P. 122

House of Representatives, January 17, 2019

An Act To Facilitate the Employment of Persons with Substance Use Disorder

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford.
Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, L. of Cumberland and
Representatives: FOLEY of Biddeford, HYMANSON of York, McCREIGHT of Harpswell,
MELARAGNO of Auburn, MEYER of Eliot, PERRY of Calais, STOVER of Boothbay.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1404-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§1404-A. Substance use disorder employer certification**

4 The department shall establish a process for certifying employers demonstrating best
5 practices in working with employees with substance use disorders.

6 **1. Criteria for certification.** The department shall, in coordination with the
7 Department of Health and Human Services, identify best practices for employers to
8 support individuals with substance use disorders. The department shall develop criteria
9 for certification of an employer and shall develop a process for an employer to apply to
10 the department for certification. The department shall certify an employer who
11 demonstrates that the employer has met the department's criteria for working with
12 employees with substance use disorders.

13 **2. Online database.** The department shall create a publicly accessible online
14 database of employers certified by the department under this section.

15 **3. Rules.** The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted
16 pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
17 subchapter 2-A.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill directs the Department of Labor to establish a process to certify employers
20 as having met the criteria established by the department for working with employees with
21 substance use disorders. The bill also directs the department to create a publicly
22 accessible database of certified employers.