



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 974

H.P. 671

House of Representatives, March 18, 2015

**An Act To Provide Compensation to a Corrections Officer Injured
by a Patient or Prisoner**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TUCKER of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and
Representatives: BATES of Westbrook, DION of Portland, FARNSWORTH of Portland,
HOBBINS of Saco, KINNEY of Limington, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senators: PATRICK of
Oxford, VALENTINO of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA Pt. 12** is enacted to read:

3 **PART 12**

4 **BENEFITS FOR CORRECTIONS OFFICERS**

5 **CHAPTER 551**

6 **SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS**

7 **§4501. Supplemental benefit for corrections officer**

8 **1. Corrections officer.** "Corrections officer," as used in this chapter, has the same
9 meaning as set forth in section 2801-A, subsection 2.

10 **2. Supplemental benefit.** A corrections officer who, while in the performance of
11 duty, suffers bodily injury resulting from acts of a patient or prisoner in the custody of the
12 jail, prison or state correctional facility where the corrections officer works and as a result
13 of the injury is entitled to benefits under Title 39-A is entitled to a supplemental benefit in
14 the amount of the difference between the weekly cash benefits to which the corrections
15 officer is entitled under Title 39-A and the corrections officer's regular salary.

16 **3. Not chargeable against sick leave.** Any absence from work resulting from the
17 injury described in subsection 2 may not be charged against available sick leave credits.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill provides for a supplemental benefit paid to a corrections officer who is
20 injured by the acts of a patient or prisoner of the jail, prison or state correctional facility
21 where the corrections officer works if the injury qualifies the corrections officer for
22 workers' compensation benefits. The amount of the supplemental benefit is the difference
23 between the corrections officer's workers' compensation benefits and the corrections
24 officer's regular salary. In addition, the work time the corrections officer misses is not
25 chargeable against available sick leave credits.