

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 5, 1977 to July 25, 1977

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PUBLIC LAWS
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gency 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,

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

36 MRSA § 451, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 660, § 5, is amended to read:

2. **Uniform property tax.** Pursuant to the Maine Constitution, Article VIII, Part First, and in addition to subsection 1, a uniform property tax is assessed which shall be determined as follows. The Legislature shall annually, prior to April 1st, enact legislation establishing the uniform property tax rate. The uniform property tax rate shall be 13 mills for the period beginning July 1, 1976, and ending June 30, 1977 and ~~12.5 mills thereafter~~. After January 1, 1977, the Legislature shall set the uniform property tax rate in accordance with Title 20, section 3747. The rate shall be applied to the state valuations of each municipality and property in the unorganized territory.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective May 2, 1977

CHAPTER 110

AN ACT Relating to Town Hospitals.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 1761 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 1761. Municipal hospitals

A municipality may establish and maintain one or more hospitals, nursing facilities, boarding homes or any other institution, place, building or agency for the care, accommodation or hospitalization of the sick or injured or for the care of any aged or other persons requiring or receiving chronic or convalescent care. Any such facility shall be subject to all statutes and licensing requirements applicable to the particular type of facility.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 1762 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 1762. Temporary facilities

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1761, in the event of an outbreak of any disease or health problem dangerous to the public health, the municipal officers or local health officer, with the approval of the department, may establish temporary health care facilities, subject to the supervision of the department.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §§ 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766 and 1767 are repealed.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 111

AN ACT to Revise the Laws Relative to the State Military and Naval Children's Home.

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

Sec. 1. 34 MRSA § 2951 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2951. Military and Naval home declared a state institution; purposes

The Military and Naval Children's Home is declared to be a state institution, the purpose of which is the shelter and care of children of this State who are in need of it due to one or more of the following reasons: Lack of appropriate alternative shelter and care, potential or actual abuse or neglect, or family crisis and upheaval, preference being given to the children of veterans of Maine who have served in the various wars in which the United States has been engaged. The Department of Mental Health and Corrections shall have charge of the affairs of the Military and Naval Children's Home. Its head shall be called the superintendent.

Sec. 2. 34 MRSA § 2952 is repealed.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 112

AN ACT Relating to Reconstruction of Certain Railroad Grade Separation Structures on Nonfederal Aid State Aid Highways.

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA § 1103, 1st ¶, last sentence, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 593, § 22, is further amended to read:

Towns may, upon petition of the selectmen of the town and approval of the department, use a portion or all of the state aid joint fund of the town toward the town's share of the cost of construction or reconstruction of bridges under the Bridge Act or for the town's share of the cost of reconstruction of railroad grade separation structures, on nonfederal aid state aid highways, under section 3411.