

# 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

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,  
TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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PORTLAND LITHOGRAPH COMPANY  
PORTLAND, MAINE  
1977

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PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
AS PASSED AT THE  
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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
1977

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**CHAPTER 192****AN ACT Concerning Damages in Wrongful Death Actions.**

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

18 MRSA § 2552, as last amended by PL 1969, c. 266, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2552. Title of action; amount recovered; disposal

Every such action shall be brought by and in the names of the personal representatives of the deceased person, and the amount recovered in every such action, except as otherwise provided, shall be for the exclusive benefit of the widow or widower, if no children, and of the children, if no widow or widower, and if both, then  $\frac{1}{2}$  for the exclusive benefit of the widow or widower and  $\frac{1}{2}$  for the exclusive benefit of the children, to be divided among the children in equal shares, and, if neither, of his heirs. The jury may give such damages as they shall deem a fair and just compensation with reference to the pecuniary injuries resulting from such death to the persons for whose benefit such action is brought, and in addition thereto, shall give such damages as will compensate the estate of such deceased person for reasonable expenses of medical, surgical and hospital care and treatment and for reasonable funeral expenses, and in addition thereto, may give damages not exceeding \$10,000 for the loss of comfort, society and companionship of the deceased to the persons for whose benefit such action is brought, provided such action shall be commenced within 2 years after the death of such person.

Effective October 24, 1977

**CHAPTER 193****AN ACT to Require Red Reflectors on Certain Long Logs Hauled at Night.**

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

29 MRSA § 1755, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 402, § 2, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

In addition, every vehicle carrying logs during the hours when lights are required, which project more than 5 feet from the rear of the vehicle, shall display a red reflector on the end of the log projecting furthest to the rear. Such reflector shall be deemed inadequate unless of sufficient size, properly located and maintained so as to reflect, at night on an unlighted highway for at least 200 feet, the lawful undimmed headlights of a vehicle approaching from the rear.

Effective October 24, 1977