

# 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  
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## § 2906. Qualification of voters

No person described in section 2866 shall vote in meetings of any territorial parish who is not ~~the owner or occupant of a pew in its house of worship or~~ a contributor to its support.

Sec. 3. 13 MRSA § 2981 is repealed.

Effective October 24, 1977

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## CHAPTER 256

### AN ACT to Clarify the Confidentiality Provisions of the Maine Housing Authorities Act.

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

Sec. 1. 30 MRSA § 4557 is enacted to read:

## § 4557. Records confidential

1. Confidential information. Records containing the following information shall be deemed confidential for purposes of Title 1, section 402, subsection 3, paragraph A:

A. Any information acquired by an authority or a member, officer, employee or agent thereof from applicants for residential tenancy in housing owned, financed, assisted or managed by an authority or from any residential tenants of such housing or from any 3rd person pertaining to any applicant for tenancy or to any tenant of such housing; and

B. Statements of financial condition or information pertaining thereto submitted to an authority or a member, officer, employee or agent thereof, in connection with an application for mortgage purchase or mortgage insurance or in connection with an authority's administration of a purchased or insured mortgage.

2. Wrongful disclosure prohibited. No member, officer, employee or agent of an authority shall knowingly divulge or disclose information declared confidential by this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an authority may make such full and complete reports concerning its administration of federal housing programs as may be required by the Federal Government or any agency or department thereof. An authority may also publish statistics or other information of a general nature drawn from information declared confidential by this section, so long as such publication is accomplished in a manner which preserves such confidentiality.

3. Waiver. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit in any way the right of any person whose interest is protected by this section to waive, in writing or otherwise, the benefits of such protection.

4. Penalty. A member, officer, employee or agent of an authority who violates the provisions of subsection 2 shall be guilty of a civil violation and shall be liable for a fine not exceeding \$200 for each such violation. For purposes of applying penalties under this subsection, a separate violation shall be deemed to have occurred with respect to each separate act of disclosure.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 4764, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 470, § 18, is repealed.

Effective October 24, 1977

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## CHAPTER 257

### AN ACT Relating to Abandoned Safety Deposit Boxes.

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

10 MRSA § 3751, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

At the expiration of 5 years after the opening of the safe or box as herein provided, the bank or company shall then notify the person in whose name the safe or box stands on its books, by a notice in writing in a securely closed, postpaid, certified letter, return receipt by addressee requested, directed to that person or persons at his or their post-office address as recorded upon the books of that bank or company, that if the amount then due for the use of such safe or box is not paid within 60 days from the date of such notice, the aforesaid sealed package of the contents of the safe or box shall be deemed presumptively abandoned and shall be turned over to the State Treasury, which shall issue its receipt to that bank or company. If the certified letter is not delivered to the addressee, the bank or company shall give notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality in which the bank is located. The contents of this notice shall be the same as that provided herein for notice by mail. At the expiration of 5 years after the delivery of the sealed package to the State Treasury, the State shall cause the package to be opened and its contents sold, except that any article contained within the sealed package deemed by the Treasurer of State to be unsaleable or without value shall be destroyed. From the proceeds of the sale, the bank or company shall be paid the rent due it and costs of notice provided herein, the remainder shall be paid into the State Treasury and credited to the General Fund for the use of the State.

Thereafter, no action shall be maintained in any court in this State by any person in whose name such safe or box stood, or his heirs, successors or assigns for any contents of such safe or box against any bank which delivered the sealed package to the State Treasury in accordance with this section. Thereafter, any lawful claimant may petition the Governor for the return of the sealed package if it has not been destroyed, or for the payment of such sum, and no more, realized by the State from the aforesaid sale. In his petition, the claimant shall state fully the facts showing the basis of his right,