

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

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PUBLIC LAWS
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such time, and the notification of assessment must be mailed within the limitation agreed upon.

Sec. 9. 26 MRSA § 1226, sub-§ 2, ¶ A, 3rd sentence, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 462, § 9, is amended to read:

A copy of the complaint shall be served upon the commission or upon such person as it may designate no later than 40 days after the decision of the commission has become final if the appeal is commenced by filing the complaint with the Superior Court.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 461

AN ACT Relating to Judicial Review of Public Utilities Commission Decisions.

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

35 MRSA § 305, 2nd sentence, is repealed as follows:

~~If in such complaint it is alleged that confiscation of property or other violation of constitutional right results from such ruling or order, the law court shall exercise its own independent judgment as to both law and facts~~

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 462

AN ACT to Provide for the Immediate Issuance of Food Stamps for Needy Families.

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

22 MRSA § 3104, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 293, § 4, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 3104. Statewide food stamp program

1. Program required. The department shall:

A. Administer a statewide program in accordance with the related requirements and regulations of the United States Departments of Agriculture and Health, Education and Welfare; and

B. Cooperate with and participate in the administration of food distribution programs in conformity with regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture.

2. Costs. The state shall pay $\frac{2}{3}$ and each county shall pay $\frac{1}{3}$ of the administrative costs for the operation of the program in the county, exclusive of the direct costs of issuance of stamps.

The department is authorized to determine the costs of administration for the counties and to enter into any necessary contracts or agreements with the counties for the purposes of this section.

The counties shall pay their share of the costs of their program by making advance quarterly payments to the Department of Human Services.

3. Authorization of emergency food stamp benefits prior to full verification. Whenever an applicant for food stamps states to the department that he is in need of immediate food assistance, the department shall, pending verification, issue and mail a card authorizing the applicant to purchase food stamps at the time of the department's initial interview with the applicant or within one working day of the interview, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

A. As a result of the initial interview with the applicant, the department shall have determined that the household of the applicant will probably be eligible for food stamps after full verification is completed;

B. Where possible, the applicant shall submit to the department, at the time of the initial interview, the adequate documentation to verify that he is in need of immediate food assistance;

C. When adequate documentation is not available at the time of the initial interview, the department shall contact at least one other person for the purpose of obtaining information to confirm the applicant's statements about his need for immediate food assistance; and

D. In no case:

(1) Shall the authorization to purchase food stamps under this section exceed 30 days from the date that the applicant receives the authorizing card; and

(2) Shall there be further food stamp issuance to the applicant's household until full verification has been obtained which confirms the eligibility of the household.