

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1979 to June 15, 1979

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## CHAPTER 369

H. P. 929 — L. D. 1142

**AN ACT to Permit Optional Credit Life Insurance for the Comaker of a Debt.**

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

24-A MRSA § 2604, sub-§ 7 is enacted to read:

7. In the case of group policies of life insurance issued to creditors providing insurance upon the lives of debtors on the term plan, creditors advancing funds on the security of first mortgages on real estate who provide such insurance on an optional basis and make a separate charge therefor to the debtor shall make such insurance available to all of the debtors in the loan transaction.

Effective September 14, 1979

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## CHAPTER 370

H. P. 892 — L. D. 1080

**AN ACT to Monitor the Juvenile Code.**

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the 108th Maine Legislature enacted a major revision of the Maine Juvenile Code amending the statutes which apply to children and youth; and

Whereas, major revisions were made in the statutes which govern the provision of services to children and youth by the Departments of Human Services, Mental Health and Corrections and Educational and Cultural Services; and

Whereas, the Department of Mental Health and Corrections was given the responsibility for preparing an annual plan for identifying, evaluating and meeting the service needs for prevention of juvenile crime and rehabilitation of juveniles adjudicated as having committed juvenile crimes; and

Whereas, the revised Maine Juvenile Code created a court intake system providing for the screening of all cases referred to the juvenile court; and

Whereas, the full effect of the implementation of the new Maine Juvenile Code, including the promulgation of all rules and regulations can not yet be determined; and

Whereas, there is a need for continuous review and monitoring of the implementation of the Maine Juvenile Code to ensure that the code achieves its goals as mandated by the Legislature and that necessary changes are brought to the attention of the Governor, the Legislature and the implementing departments; and

Whereas, there already exists an agency, whose members are appointed by the Governor under the terms of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, which has among its stated duties the responsibility to coordinate juvenile services and promote juvenile justice in the State; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency 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:**

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA § 2501, sub-§ 15 is enacted to read:

15. Title 15.

A. Title 15, chapter 513 shall be repealed on September 30, 1981.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §§ 3356 and 3357, are enacted to read:

§ 3356. Duties

The agency shall, in addition to its duties under state and federal laws:

1. Staff provided. Provide administrative and staff support to the committee established pursuant to Title 15, chapter 513;

2. Review. Review and examine sections of the Revised Statutes outside of the Maine Juvenile Code which pertain to the juvenile law and to draft proposed amendments to those sections as deemed advisable in light of the Maine Juvenile Code; and

3. Report. Report to the Governor and the Legislature at least annually and prior to the beginning of each legislative session, its recommendations for both legislative and executive action.

§ 3357. Utilization of funds available

The Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency is authorized to utilize funds available to it for the employment of staff or consultants to carry out the purposes of section 3356.

Sec. 3. 15 MRSA c. 513 is enacted to read:

## CHAPTER 513

### COMMITTEE TO MONITOR

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JUVENILE CODE

##### § 3601. Appointment of committee

There is created a committee, composed of a number of members to be determined by the Governor, whose purpose shall be to comprehensively monitor and evaluate the operation and implementation of the Maine Juvenile Code and to recommend changes to the code based on those evaluations.

1. **Appointments to the committee.** Appointments to the committee, including the chairman, shall be made by the Governor, except that there shall be 2 representatives from the Legislature on the committee, one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

2. **Representation on the committee.** To the extent possible, membership on the committee shall include representation from the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, the Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency, the Office of Court Administrator, Maine Police Chief's Association, one representative of county sheriffs, Department of Attorney General, one representative of defense attorneys, one representative of district attorneys, a representative of the public schools, representatives of 3 local nonprofit agencies serving youth and 2 representatives from the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group to the Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency.

3. **Terms.** All members of the committee shall be appointed for a term of one year. Any vacancy on the committee shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term. Members on the committee shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.

4. **Compensation.** Members on the committee shall receive no compensation but shall receive actual necessary travel expenses for attendance at meetings of the committee.

5. **Contacts with state agencies.** The committee shall, during the course of its existence, make direct contact for the purposes of obtaining information or for review of such recommendations as it proposes, with the Departments of Human Services, Mental Health and Corrections, Education and Cultural Services, the Criminal Law Advisory Commission and with any other organization or committee whose affairs pertain to the juvenile justice system. These state agencies shall cooperate in the provision of all reasonable information and data

necessary to carry out the functions given the committee.

6. Staff. Staff and assistance for the committee shall be provided pursuant to Title 5, section 3356.

§ 3602. Termination of chapter

This chapter is subject to repeal under Title 1, section 2501. The legislative committee having jurisdiction over the review provided for in Title 1, section 2502 shall be the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

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

Effective June 6, 1979

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## CHAPTER 371

H. P. 1174 — L. D. 1436

**AN ACT to Provide Special Free License Plates for the 100% Disabled Veteran.**

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

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA § 252-A is enacted to read:

§ 252-A. Disabled veterans; special free license plates

The Secretary of State on application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 shall issue a registration certificate and set of special designating plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates to any 100% disabled veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces in a combat zone at any time during his tenure of service when that application is accompanied by certification from the Veterans Administration as to the veteran's disability and receipt of 100% service-connected benefits and a copy of the appropriate military form certifying combat duty service.

These special designating plates shall bear the International Symbol, easily recognizable at a distance, and the letters VET which indicates that the vehicle is owned by a disabled veteran.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA, § 2151, sub-§ 2, ¶ D, sub-¶ (2), as amended by PL 1975, c. 16, § 5 is further amended to read:

(2) Any motor vehicle registered by a handicapped person shall be exempt