

# 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

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

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Kennebec Journal  
Augusta, Maine  
1979

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**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
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**ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE**  
1979

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA c. 15-A is enacted to read:

**CHAPTER 15-A**

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION OF STATEHOUSE AND BLAINE HOUSE**

§ 321. Declaration of policy

The Legislature, in view of the continuing importance which the Statehouse and the Blaine House have for the people of Maine, declares that it is the policy of the State of Maine to preserve and develop the aesthetic and historical integrity of the Statehouse and the Blaine House.

Sec. 2. Study authorized. The Historic Preservation Commission shall conduct research on the history of the Statehouse and Blaine House. Not later than January 15, 1981, the commission shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on State Government the results of its research and any recommendations on the preservation and development of the aesthetic and historical integrity of the Statehouse and Blaine House.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purpose of this Act. Any balance available at the end of the first fiscal year shall be carried forward to continue to conduct the study authorized by this Act.

1979-80

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Unallocated

\$2,500

Effective September 14, 1979

**CHAPTER 537**

H. P. 1100 — L. D. 1352

**AN ACT Relating to the Management of the Department of Attorney General.**

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

5 MRSA § 711, sub-§ 1, ¶ I, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 674, § 6, is amended to read:

I. Deputies, assistants, staff attorneys, research assistants, **business manager** and the secretary to the Attorney General of the Attorney General's Department.

Effective September 14, 1979

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## CHAPTER 538

H. P. 1151 — L. D. 1533

### AN ACT to Revise the Medical Examiner System.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 2842, sub-§ 3 is amended to read:

3. **Medical certificate by medical examiner.** When a death occurs ~~without medical attendance~~ **under circumstances which make it a medical examiner case as defined in section 3025**, or when inquiry as to the cause of death is required by law, the medical examiner shall complete and sign the medical certification and verify or provide the date of death within 24 hours ~~after death of the time he is notified of the death, unless the remains must be held longer before release to complete studies or investigation.~~

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 3022, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 59, § 1, is amended to read:

The Chief Medical Examiner is authorized to select one or more of the medical examiners to serve as deputy chief medical examiners. **The Deputy Chief Medical Examiner shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Medical Examiner and if salaried shall be unclassified.** In the event of his temporary absence, the Chief Medical Examiner, or if he is unavailable, the Attorney General, may designate one of the deputy chief medical examiners to serve as Acting Chief Medical Examiner. The Acting Chief Medical Examiner shall have all of the powers and responsibilities of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA § 3023, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 534, § 2, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

The Chief Medical Examiner may retain official consultants to serve the various needs of the office. These consultants shall possess a high degree of integrity and be learned in the fields. They need not reside within the State nor take an oath of office. They shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA § 3024, first ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 59, § 2, is amended to read: