

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 3, 1980 to June 19, 1981

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
August 3, 1981

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PUBLIC LAWS
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furnaces or water heaters used in common with other tenants. Except as provided in this section, a written or oral waiver of this requirement is against public policy and is void. Any person in violation of this section is liable to the lessee for actual damages or \$100, whichever is greater, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 177

H. P. 667 — L. D. 771

AN ACT to Provide the Employment Security Commission Flexibility in Handling Administrative Appeals.

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

26 MRSA § 1194, sub-§ 2, 4th ¶, 2nd sentence, as last amended by PL 1979, c. 113, is further amended to read:

Subject to subsection 11, unless the claimant or any such interested party, within 15 calendar days after such notification was mailed to his last known address, files an appeal from such determination, such determination shall be final, **provided that the period within which an appeal may be filed may be extended, for a period not to exceed an additional 15 calendar days, for good cause shown.**

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 178

S. P. 300 — L. D. 844

AN ACT Concerning Health Insurance Plans under the State Retirement System.

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

5 MRSA § 285, sub-§ 1, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 625, § 19, is further amended to read:

1. **Eligibility.** Each appointed or elective officer or employee of the State of Maine who is eligible for membership in the Maine State Retirement System or the State Police Retirement System or a member of the judiciary or an employee

of the Maine State Credit Union or of the Maine State Employees Association or of Council 74 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees or the Maine Turnpike Authority, including those employees in any of ~~said~~ **the** categories who on April 26, 1968 have retired and who were covered under plans of insurance which by virtue of this legislation will be terminated and thereafter any such employees in any of ~~said~~ **the** categories who retire and who on the date of their retirement are currently enrolled in this group accident and sickness or health insurance plan shall come within the purview of this section; **provided that those members who are not retiring on a disability retirement have participated in the group accident and sickness or health insurance plan for a minimum of one year immediately prior to retirement**, excepting that it shall not be extended to include members of the Maine State Municipal Association or the Maine Teachers Association or employees of counties and municipalities and instrumentalities thereof, including quasi-municipal corporations.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 179

H. P. 820 — L. D. 974

AN ACT to Ensure the Rights of Privacy of Recipients of Public Assistance.

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

19 MRSA § 221 is enacted to read:

§ 221. Public assistance recipients' rights of privacy

When the Department of Human Services seeks to establish paternity of a dependent child, any inquiry about prior or current sexual activity of a recipient of public assistance shall be limited to that necessary to resolve a genuine dispute about the parentage of a child. When a custodial mother has informed the department that a particular man is the father of her child, the department shall make no further inquiry into her personal life unless the man so identified has denied that he is the father of that child or he refuses to cooperate.

Effective September 18, 1981