

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 3, 2008 to June 13, 2009**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2009**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2009**

fund." The fund must be used to reimburse eligible employers for the cost of extended benefits paid on their behalf from the Unemployment Compensation Fund under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1141 as a result of the triggering of the "on" indicator provided in this Act.

To obtain reimbursement from the fund, an employer must demonstrate to the administrator of the fund that the employer has paid its bill to the Unemployment Compensation Fund for the benefits and that the benefits paid were attributable to this "on" indicator.

If amounts in the fund are not sufficient to cover the total cost of the extended benefits under this Act, the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, on behalf of the Governor, shall submit a budget request to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

For purposes of this section, a school administrative unit as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1, subsection 26 is not an eligible employer.

**Sec. 7. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Emergency Unemployment Benefit Reimbursement Fund N070**

Initiative: Provides funds to support the costs of reimbursing certain direct reimbursement employers for extended benefits paid as a result of temporarily adding an alternative methodology for determining when extended unemployment benefits are paid.

GENERAL FUND	2009-10	2010-11
All Other	\$600,000	\$0
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Sec. 8. Retroactivity.** Sections 2 to 5 of this Act apply retroactively to February 17, 2009.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective April 16, 2009.

**CHAPTER 34  
S.P. 71 - L.D. 221**

**An Act To Modify the Laws  
Regarding Seat Belts**

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

**Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2081, sub-§6,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 450, §4, is further amended to read:

**6. Exceptions.** Notwithstanding subsection 3-A:

A. A rural mail carrier of the United States Postal Service is not required to be secured in a seat belt while engaged in the delivery of mail; ~~and~~

B. The operator of a taxicab or a limousine is not responsible for securing in a seat belt a passenger transported for a fee; and

C. A newspaper delivery person is not required to be secured in a seat belt while engaged in the actual delivery of newspapers from a vehicle or performing newspaper delivery duties that require frequent entry into and exit from a vehicle.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 35  
S.P. 43 - L.D. 120**

**An Act Regarding Assistance  
to Low-income Customers of  
Gas Utilities**

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

**Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §4706-A,** as enacted by PL 1999, c. 664, §1, is repealed.

**Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §4706-B** is enacted to read:

**§4706-B. Assistance programs for low-income customers**

**1. Programs.** Each gas utility in the State that serves 5,000 or more residential customers shall offer low-income assistance programs for residential customers who satisfy criteria for low-income assistance as established by the commission in rule. To the maximum extent possible, a gas utility, in adopting and implementing a low-income assistance program under this section, shall seek to encourage conservation in the use of gas by program participants.

**2. Cost recovery.** The commission shall include in rates for a gas utility all costs incurred in compli-