

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.

Augusta, Maine
2009

the 124th Legislature concerning the subject matter of this resolve.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 71

S.P. 426 - L.D. 1154

Resolve, To Require a Study of Economic Development Incentives in the Unorganized Territory

Sec. 1. Study. Resolved: That the Department of Economic and Community Development and the State Tax Assessor shall convene a study group to conduct a study of the role of economic development incentives, including tax increment financing, in the unorganized territory. The department and the assessor shall invite participation in the study by the fiscal administrator of the unorganized territory, property owners in the unorganized territories and representatives of counties with unorganized territories, regional economic development organizations whose territory covers unorganized territories, businesses with development interests in the unorganized territories and organizations interested in natural resources development. The study group shall:

1. Consider the process of promoting and approving economic development incentives in the unorganized territory and recommend the appropriate role of state, county and regional organizations in the decision-making process;
2. Review the legal issues surrounding tax increment financing in the unorganized territory and the legally acceptable methods of identifying special benefits from property tax incentives in that jurisdiction;
3. Consider the role of tax increment financing in shifting the property tax burden throughout the unorganized territory and evaluate the potential for alternative tax mechanisms, such as a wind power excise tax, to provide support for economic development infrastructure; and
4. Report the findings and recommendations of the study to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation by January 15, 2010. The joint standing committee may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature regarding the study.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 72

H.P. 765 - L.D. 1110

Resolve, Directing the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services To Report on Homeless Veterans

Sec. 1. Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to study issue of homeless veterans. Resolved: That the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management shall work with the existing groups that work on the issue of homelessness among veterans to determine possible solutions to the issue and further assistance that can be given to homeless veterans in the State and shall develop a report on their findings. The report must include an estimate of the effect that additional veterans services officers would have on the issue of homelessness among veterans; and be it further

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services shall submit the report developed under section 1 no later than January 15, 2010 to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs including any recommended legislation to address the issue of homeless veterans. The Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs is authorized to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature based on the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 73

H.P. 859 - L.D. 1240

Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation To Conduct a Sunrise Review Regarding a Proposal To License Wetland Scientists

Sec. 1. Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct a sunrise review regarding a proposal to license wetland scientists. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation shall conduct an independent assessment pursuant to the sunrise review requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 1-A, subchapter 2 of a proposal submitted to the commissioner to license wetland scientists; and be it further

Sec. 2. Reporting date established. Resolved: That no later than February 15, 2010 the

Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation shall submit a report with any necessary proposed legislation regarding the independent assessment under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development. That committee is authorized to submit legislation on the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 74

H.P. 860 - L.D. 1241

Resolve, Directing the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation To Conduct a Sunrise Review Regarding the Proposal To License Certain Mechanical Trades

Sec. 1. Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct a sunrise review regarding the proposal to license certain mechanical trades. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation shall conduct an independent assessment pursuant to the sunrise review requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 1-A, subchapter 2 of the proposal to license certain mechanical trades; and be it further

Sec. 2. Reporting date established. Resolved: That no later than February 15, 2010 the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation shall submit a report with any necessary legislation following the independent assessment under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development. That committee is authorized to submit legislation on the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 75

H.P. 626 - L.D. 908

Resolve, To Encourage Regional Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Initiatives

Sec. 1. Regional energy conservation and renewable energy initiatives. Resolved: That, in the administration of energy conservation and renew-

able energy programs and funding, the Public Utilities Commission shall encourage collaboration between municipalities of the State in the development and implementation of regional energy conservation and renewable energy projects. The commission shall ensure that energy conservation and renewable energy programs and funding administered by the commission for which municipalities are eligible incorporate opportunities for regional projects proposed by multiple municipalities. The commission shall require a proposal for a regional energy conservation project or renewable energy project to include information regarding the expected impact of the project on the electric load of the transmission and distribution utility or utilities serving the participating municipalities; and be it further

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission shall, in the annual report due on December 1, 2009 under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-A, subsection 11, report on its efforts to encourage regional energy conservation and renewable energy projects pursuant to section 1.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 76

H.P. 829 - L.D. 1204

Resolve, To Develop a Watercraft Safety Education Plan

Sec. 1. Develop a watercraft safety education plan. Resolved: That the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall develop a watercraft safety education plan in consultation with stakeholders and interested parties to provide watercraft operators with a basic understanding about the safe operation of watercraft. For the purposes of this resolve, "watercraft" has the same meaning as in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 13001, subsection 28; and be it further

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall report its watercraft safety education plan and any findings and recommendations with draft implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by no later than January 5, 2010. The joint standing committee may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature regarding the report.

See title page for effective date.