

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 7, 2016 to August 2, 2017**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 2017**

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

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2017**

**CHAPTER 31**  
**S.P. 135 - L.D. 408**

**An Act To Prohibit Taxpayer-  
funded Campaign  
Expenditures from Being Used  
on Post-election Parties**

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

**Sec. 1.** 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2011, c. 389, §54, is further amended to read:

**6. Restrictions on contributions and expenditures for certified candidates.** After certification, a candidate must limit the candidate's campaign expenditures and obligations, including outstanding obligations, to the revenues distributed to the candidate from the fund and may not accept any contributions unless specifically authorized by the commission. Candidates may also accept and spend interest earned on fund revenues in campaign bank accounts. All revenues distributed to a certified candidate from the fund must be used for campaign-related purposes. The candidate, the treasurer, the candidate's committee authorized pursuant to section 1013-A, subsection 1 or any agent of the candidate and committee may not use these revenues for any but campaign-related purposes. The candidate, the treasurer, the candidate's committee authorized pursuant to section 1013-A, subsection 1 or any agent of the candidate and committee may not use these revenues for post-election parties. This section does not prohibit a candidate from using personal funds for post-election parties as governed by rules of the commission. The commission shall publish guidelines outlining permissible campaign-related expenditures.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 32**  
**H.P. 15 - L.D. 14**

**An Act To Extend the Legal  
Hours for Harvesting Lobster**

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

**Whereas,** the current legal times for hauling lobster traps are determined based upon sunrise and sunset; and

**Whereas,** in the fall the later sunrise prevents lobster license holders from fishing most efficiently and during the calmer morning hours; and

**Whereas,** it is necessary that this Act take effect before October 2017 in order to take advantage of the fall harvest and in order to allow lobster license holders to fish efficiently and safely; 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.** 12 MRSA §6440, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2001, c. 123, §1, is further amended to read:

**1. Summer.** During the period 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise from June 1st to ~~October 31st~~ September 30th, both days inclusive, and during the period 1/2 hour after sunset until 4 a.m. from October 1st to October 31st, both days inclusive; and

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

Effective April 28, 2017.

**CHAPTER 33**  
**H.P. 108 - L.D. 150**

**An Act Regarding the Funding  
of Volunteer Fire Departments**

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

**Sec. 1.** 30-A MRSA §5722, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

**4. Volunteer fire department.** Support an incorporated volunteer fire department, as long as the purposes for which an appropriation is made to a volunteer fire department are itemized;

A. If the amount appropriated for an incorporated volunteer fire department is \$1,000 or less, the municipal officers may issue their warrant to the municipal treasurer, without itemizing the purposes for which the appropriation will be spent, requiring the municipal treasurer to pay the amount of the appropriation to the treasurer of the volunteer fire department;

See title page for effective date.