

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 4, 2024 to March 21, 2025

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
March 25, 2025 to June 25, 2025

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 20, 2025

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

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

Augusta, Maine
2025

of-state insurer self-insurer to the extent that it is reinsuring out-of-state liabilities beyond the scope of its Maine self-insurance plan.

Sec. 10. 39-A MRSA §403, sub-§5, ¶A-1, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 401, §3, is amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

(2) If the principal member does not have employees in the State, the principal member must meet the same qualifications as a ~~subsidiary employer applying to become qualified parent corporation of~~ an individual self-insurer under subsection 3, paragraph G, except that direct majority ownership is not required and the group's indemnity agreement is deemed to meet the requirement for an irrevocable contract of assignment.

Sec. 11. 39-A MRSA §403, sub-§11, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 885, Pt. A, §8 and affected by §§9 to 11, is amended to read:

11. Qualifications for reinsurance carriers. A workers' compensation contract or policy issued after ~~the effective date of this section~~ January 1, 1993 may not be recognized by the Superintendent of Insurance in considering the ability of an individual or group self-insurer to fulfill its financial obligations under this Act, unless the contract or policy is issued by an admitted insurance company or a reinsurance company that meets on a continuous basis the requirements of Title 24-A, chapter 9, subchapter ~~III~~ 3 and the reinsurance company has been approved by the superintendent to issue in this State contracts of primary workers' compensation reinsurance, or by Lloyd's of London, a ~~syndicate of unincorporated alien insurers that has established and maintains United States trust funds consistent with the requirements of Title 24-A, chapter 9, subchapter III~~ formally organized association of incorporated underwriters and individual unincorporated underwriters, any one or more of which underwrite and assume as insurer a portion of the risk insured by them as set forth in the contract of insurance. Each contract of primary workers' compensation reinsurance that is proposed for use in this State must be filed for approval in the manner set out in Title 24-A, section 2412. ~~Insofar as is~~ To the extent practicable, a contract so approved may be modified with less than 30 days advance filing notice if the superintendent determines the modifications suggested are not contrary to provisions of Title 24-A, section 2412, this Title or Bureau of Insurance Rule Chapter 250 and are necessary to effect required reinsurance coverage to authorize the self-insurer to operate a plan of workers' compensation self-insurance.

Sec. 12. 39-A MRSA §403, sub-§14, ¶F-1 is enacted to read:

F-1. After terminating or suspending an authorization for self-insurance in accordance with this subsection, the Superintendent of Insurance shall

promptly notify the board and forward to it a copy of the order terminating or suspending the authorization.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 54

H.P. 815 - L.D. 1240

An Act to Align the Schedules for Climate Change Protection Plans and Grid-enhancing Technology Reviews with the Integrated Grid Planning Process

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3146, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 702, §7, is amended to read:

§3146. Climate change protection plan

No later than ~~December 31, 2023~~ May 1, 2027, and every ~~3~~ 5 years thereafter, a transmission and distribution utility shall submit to the commission a 10-year plan that includes specific actions for addressing the expected effects of climate change on the utility's assets needed to transmit and distribute electricity to its customers. The commission shall provide a process to allow for the input from interested parties on the transmission and distribution utility's plan. The commission may use the plan and the input received from interested parties in rate cases or other proceedings involving the transmission and distribution utility.

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3148, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 553, §1, is amended to read:

2. Periodic review. Beginning January 15, ~~2025~~ 2027, and every 5 years thereafter, the commission shall conduct a review or update a previous review or contract with a consultant to conduct a review or update a previous review of available grid-enhancing technology that could be implemented by a large investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to reduce or defer the need for investment in grid infrastructure in the State. The commission may produce a report or contract with a consultant to produce a report describing the grid-enhancing technology identified in the review. The commission may file information or the report for use in rate cases or other proceedings involving a large investor-owned transmission and distribution utility, including the integrated grid planning proceeding required pursuant to section 3147, subsection 2.

Sec. 3. 2027 review of available grid-enhancing technology. The review conducted in 2027 pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3148, subsection 2 must update the re-

view conducted in 2025 by the Public Utilities Commission or a consultant of the commission of available grid-enhancing technology that could be implemented by a large investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to reduce or defer the need for investment in grid infrastructure in the State.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 55

H.P. 582 - L.D. 917

An Act Regarding Charges to Uninsured Patients for COVID-19 Vaccines

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1718-G, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 28, Pt. A, §2, is amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§1718-G. Requirements for notice to patients of costs for COVID-19 screening and testing and prohibited charges for COVID-19 vaccination for uninsured patients

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1718-G, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 28, Pt. A, §2, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 56

H.P. 44 - L.D. 80

An Act to Designate the Seppala Siberian Sleddog as the Maine State Dog

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §232 is enacted to read:

§232. State dog

The Seppala Siberian Sleddog is the official state dog.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 57

S.P. 54 - L.D. 126

An Act to Expand the Use of the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund

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

Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §513-A, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 504, §2, is amended to read:

§513-A. Veterans' homelessness prevention coordination

1. Veterans' homelessness prevention partnership. The director ~~shall~~ may, through one or more collaborative agreements, establish a program of partnerships with human services-based volunteer organizations to provide transitional housing to homeless veterans and coordinate efforts to remedy and prevent homelessness among veterans in this State. The volunteer organizations must have as their core programs addressing homelessness and veterans' services and have been active in the State for at least 2 years. Priority must be given to an organization founded, chartered or organized in the State. The director may accept donations from outside sources and state and federal funding to accomplish the priorities of the partnerships. To the extent state, federal or outside funding is available, the priorities of these partnerships, listed in order of priority, include, but are not limited to:

- A. Identifying homeless veterans in the State;
- B. Identifying and securing temporary or permanent living space for veterans within the veterans' communities;
- C. Providing ~~reimbursement~~ disbursements to human services-based volunteer organizations that provide transitional housing to homeless veterans pursuant to collaborative agreements entered into pursuant to this subsection; and
- D. Conducting annual outreach events, targeted to reach the maximum number of veterans in need, to disseminate information on resources and services available to assist homeless veterans.

2. Rules. The bureau may adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including to define "veterans" for purposes of this section, to govern collaborative agreements with human services-based volunteer organizations and to govern ~~the reimbursement of organizations that provide transitional housing to homeless veterans through~~ disbursements from the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund.

Rules adopted under this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

3. Fund established. The Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund, a nonlapsing fund, is established under the bureau for the purpose of receiving funds from state, federal and other sources, including donations from private citizens, corporations and entities for the purpose of this section. The bureau shall use the fund to provide ~~reimbursement to human services-based volunteer organizations that provide transitional housing to homeless veterans~~ disbursements to organizations, businesses, landlords or other entities to