# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## **LAWS**

#### **OF THE**

# **STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

#### ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

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Augusta, Maine 2025

health information, may be made available to first responders only as necessary to implement the program. For the purposes of this paragraph, "community well-being check program" means a voluntary program that involves daily, or regular, contact with a participant and, when contact cannot be established, sends first responders to the participant's residence to check on the participant's well-being.;

# Sec. 3. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶W is enacted to read:

W. Information in the possession of a public utility, the Office of the Public Advocate or the Public Utilities Commission pertaining to an individual customer of a public utility as defined in Title 35-A, section 102, subsection 13 that is designated by rule as confidential by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Title 35-A, section 111; and

# Sec. 4. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶X is enacted to read:

X. Information in the possession of a public sewer system pertaining to an individual customer of a public utility as described in this paragraph. For purposes of this paragraph, "public sewer system" means a municipality, division of a municipality or quasi-municipal entity that is a municipal sewer department, a sewer district as defined in Title 38, section 1032, subsection 3 or 4, a system that collects stormwater or a sanitary district formed under Title 38, chapter 11.

(1) If the municipality, division of a municipality or quasi-municipal entity, referred to in this subparagraph as "the entity," is both a public sewer system and a water utility as defined in Title 35-A, section 102, subsection 22, information in the possession of the entity, the Office of the Public Advocate or the Public Utilities Commission pertaining to an individual customer of the public sewer system is confidential if that information would be confidential under paragraph W if the information pertained to an individual customer of a water utility.

(2) For all public sewer systems not described in subparagraph (1), information in the possession of the public sewer system pertaining to an individual customer of the public sewer system, including the customer's name, physical or mailing address, e-mail address, telephone number, utility usage, payment and credit history, financial condition or medical condition, or financial or medical condition of a member of the customer's family, is confidential and may not be disclosed by the public sewer system unless:

(a) The customer consents to the disclosure. For purposes of this division, the

public sewer system may accept an oral certification from a social service agency that the customer has consented to the public sewer system's disclosure of the customer's information to the social service agency;

- (b) The disclosure is made for the purpose of debt collection, credit reporting or usage reporting pursuant to state or federal law, except that the information may not be disclosed for purposes of debt collection or credit reporting purposes if the customer is currently protected by a protection from abuse order and the customer has disclosed the protection from abuse order to the public sewer system;
- (c) The disclosure is made to a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency pursuant to lawful process;
- (d) The disclosure is made to state, county, tribal or local emergency management agency personnel when the information about the individual customer is requested while the agency is responding to an emergency situation;
- (e) The disclosure is made to a public utility or public sewer system to the extent necessary to allow these entities to bill customers for services rendered; or
- (f) The disclosure is otherwise required by state or federal law.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 100 H.P. 186 - L.D. 286

An Act to Allow County Commissioners Greater Flexibility When Establishing a Payment Schedule for Municipalities to Pay County Tax Bills

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

**Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §706,** as amended by PL 2009, c. 625, §1, is further amended to read:

#### §706. Apportionment of county tax; warrants

When a county tax is authorized, the county commissioners shall apportion it upon the municipalities, unorganized territory and other places in that county according to the most recent state valuation. They may add to the sum authorized an amount not exceeding 2%

of that sum, if a fractional division necessitates that addition and if they demonstrate that necessity in the record of that apportionment. The county commissioners shall establish the date <u>or dates</u> for the payment of the tax. The date may not be earlier than the first day of the following September.

No later than the 15th of July preceding the date established for payment of the tax, the county commissioners shall issue their warrant to the assessors of the municipalities and other places and to the State Tax Assessor for the unorganized territory within that county. Those officers shall assess the sum apportioned to their tax jurisdiction and commit their assessment for collection in the same manner as other amounts to be raised by the property tax during the tax year to which the county tax warrant applies.

If a municipality or place or the State Tax Assessor must make a supplemental assessment due to failure by the county commissioners to issue their warrant by July 15th, the county must bear the costs of that supplemental assessment. Those costs may be recovered by the tax jurisdiction through an offset against the county tax that the tax jurisdiction would otherwise be required to pay over to the county.

The county may collect delinquent county taxes and charge interest on delinquent county taxes as provided under Title 36, sections 891 and 892-A.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 101 S.P. 169 - L.D. 388

An Act to Provide Access to Quality Family Child Care for Military Personnel by Exempting Certain Military Child Care Providers from State Licensing Requirements

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §8301-A, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Exemption from duplicative licensure. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, a child care facility or family child care provider on a military installation or a facility licensed or certified as a family child care provider by the United States Department of Defense or by the United States Coast Guard that provides care only for children of parents or guardians who are active duty military members is exempt from the requirements of this chapter.

See title page for effective date.

### CHAPTER 102 S.P. 388 - L.D. 899

#### An Act to Strengthen the Requirements for Medical Payments Coverage

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

**Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2910-A, sub-§4, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 182, §1, is amended to read:

B. Medical payments coverage in a casualty insurance policy is assignable only by <u>written</u> agreement between the insured and the casualty insurer <u>on a form prescribed or approved by the superintendent</u>. Benefits under medical payments coverage must be applied as directed by the insured.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 103 S.P. 396 - L.D. 907

An Act to Amend the Law Governing Zoning Ordinance Variances for Persons with Permanent Disabilities

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

**Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4353, sub-§4-A, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 2009, c. 342, §1, is amended to read:

B. If authorized by the zoning ordinance establishing the board, the board may grant a variance to an owner of a dwelling who resides in the dwelling and who is responsible to transport a person with a permanent disability for the construction of a place of storage and parking for a noncommercial vehicle owned by that person and no other purpose used to transport a person with a permanent disability. The width and length of the structure may not be larger than 2 times the width and length of the noncommercial vehicle. The owner shall submit proposed plans for the structure with the request for the variance pursuant to this paragraph to the board.

The person with the permanent disability shall prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the person's disability is permanent.

For purposes of this paragraph, "noncommercial vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in Title 29 A, section 101, subsection 42 with a gross vehicle weight of no more than 6,000 pounds, bearing a disability registration plate issued pursuant to