

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

B. Information made confidential by rule or order of the administrator; and

C. Information obtained from federal agencies, which may not be disclosed under federal law.

Sec. 13. 32 MRSA §16524, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 576, §1, is amended to read:

§16524. Confidentiality of personal information

Personal information contained in an application for restitution assistance under this subchapter is ~~not subject to disclosure to the extent the information is designated as not a public record by section 16607, subsection 2, paragraph E~~ confidential.

Sec. 14. 32 MRSA §16607, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 65, Pt. A, §2, is amended to read:

2. Nonpublic Confidential records. The following records are ~~not public records and are not available for public examination under subsection 1~~ confidential:

A. A record obtained by the administrator in connection with an audit or inspection under section 16411, subsection 4 or an investigation under section 16602;

B. A part of a record filed in connection with a registration statement under section 16301 and sections 16303 to 16305 or a record under section 16411, subsection 4 that contains trade secrets or confidential information if the person filing the registration statement or report has asserted a claim of confidentiality or privilege that is authorized by law;

C. A record that is not required to be provided to the administrator or filed under this chapter and is provided to the administrator only on the condition that the record ~~will not be subject to public examination or disclosure~~ is confidential;

D. A record received from a person specified in section 16608, subsection 1 that has been designated as confidential by the agency furnishing the record;

E. Any social security number, residential address unless used as a business address and residential telephone number unless used as a business telephone number contained in a record that is filed;

F. A record obtained by the administrator through a designee of the administrator that, pursuant to a routine technical rule, as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, or an order under this chapter, has been:

(1) Expunged from the administrator's records by the designee; or

(2) Determined to be nonpublic or nondisclosable by that designee if the administrator finds

the determination to be in the public interest and for the protection of investors;

G. Records to the extent that they relate solely to the administrator's internal personnel rules and practices, including, but not limited to, protocols, guidelines, manuals and memoranda of procedure for employees of the Office of Securities;

H. Interagency or intra-agency memoranda or letters, including generally records that reflect discussions between or consideration by the administrator and employees of the Office of Securities of any action taken or proposed to be taken by the administrator or employees of the Office of Securities, including, but not limited to, reports, summaries, analyses, conclusions or other work product of the administrator or employees of the Office of Securities, except those that by law would routinely be discoverable in litigation; and

I. Records to the extent that disclosure could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Sec. 15. 32 MRSA §18509, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 253, §7, is amended to read:

6. Confidentiality. Information provided to the interstate commission or distributed by a member board is confidential ~~within the meaning of Title 1, section 402, subsection 3, paragraph A~~ and may be used only for investigatory or disciplinary matters under sections 18510 and 18511.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 112

H.P. 50 - L.D. 86

An Act to Update the Laws Regarding Education

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1, sub-§13-A, ¶B-1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 477, §2, is amended by amending subparagraph (1) to read:

(1) Who is sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing or economic hardship or a similar reason; is living in a motel, hotel, trailer park or camping ground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodation; is living in an emergency or transitional shelter; ~~or is abandoned in a hospital; or is awaiting foster care placement;~~

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §1651, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

4. District school committee to act as district board of trustees. A community school district may vote at any time ~~on the article in section 1602, subsection 1, paragraph C, to see determine~~ if the district school committee ~~shall be~~ is authorized to perform the function of the district board of trustees. If the municipalities vote affirmatively ~~on that article~~, the district school committee ~~shall~~ must perform the duties of the district board of trustees under this chapter.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §1653, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 1993, c. 668, §1, is further amended to read:

C. Notwithstanding paragraphs A and B, the voters of a district may vote on an appropriate article at meetings called by the municipal officers of the respective member towns, ~~in accordance with section 1602~~, to establish a fixed common date for all newly elected school committee members to assume their terms of office. The common date must be subsequent to the last annual municipal election within the district, but may be no later than July 1st of the next fiscal year. The adoption of such a common date is conditional upon the favorable passage of this article at each of the meetings of the member towns. This paragraph does not apply to commencement of terms of office of members elected to fill vacancies. Vacancies are filled for the remainder of the unexpired term as provided in subsection 2, paragraph A.

Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §1751-A is enacted to read:

§1751-A. Withdrawal from community school district

The residents of a participating municipality within a community school district may petition and vote to withdraw from the district in the same manner as a participating municipality within a regional school unit may petition to withdraw in accordance with section 1466.

Sec. 5. 20-A MRSA §2951, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is repealed.

Sec. 6. 20-A MRSA §3804, as amended by PL 2019, c. 219, §3, is further amended to read:

§3804. Audit

An education service center shall adhere to generally accepted accounting principles and shall annually engage an external auditor to do an independent audit of the education service center's finances. The education service center shall submit the audit to its members and to the department. The audit must be conducted in the same manner as a school administrative unit audit in accordance with chapter 221, subchapter 2. An education service center under the fiscal authority of a school administrative unit may be included in the audit of that

school administrative unit and is not required to file an additional audit under this section.

Sec. 7. 20-A MRSA §6051, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2007, c. 668, §32, is further amended to read:

4. Initial report to commissioner. ~~On or before November 1st, An initial report to the commissioner must be included as part of the audit under subsection 1. In the report~~ the school board shall provide the commissioner with:

C. Written determination of whether or not proper budgetary controls are in place;

D. A written determination of whether or not the annual financial data submitted to the department is correct, including submission of an audited reconciliation of the annual financial data prepared and certified by the auditor; and

E. A written determination as to whether the school administrative unit has complied with applicable provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

Sec. 8. 20-A MRSA c. 608, as amended, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 113

H.P. 188 - L.D. 288

**An Act to Make Technical
Changes to Maine's Tax Laws**

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. 36 MRSA §327, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2017, c. 170, Pt. B, §2, is further amended to read:

3. Employment of assessor. ~~Any A~~ municipal assessing unit may employ a part-time, ~~non-certified noncertified~~ assessor or contract with a firm or organization that provides assessing services; when ~~any~~ a municipal assessing unit or primary assessing area employs a full-time, professional assessor, this assessor must be certified by the bureau as ~~a professionally trained assessor~~ having the basic knowledge required to perform the assessing function. The bureau shall publish, for the information of the municipalities, a list of assessing firms or organizations. The bureau shall provide to a municipality, on request by the municipality, a list of certified assessors.

Sec. A-2. 36 MRSA §684, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2007, c. 438, §21, is further amended to read: