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

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Augusta, Maine 2025

CHAPTER 180 H.P. 419 - L.D. 651

An Act to Codify the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Pilot Program

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

- **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§18-G,** as enacted by PL 2021, c. 346, §1, is repealed.
- Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA c. 441, as amended, is repealed.
 - Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA c. 441-A is enacted to read:

 CHAPTER 441-A

MAINE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER LOAN RE-PAYMENT PROGRAM

§12961. Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program

- 1. Program established. The Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the Finance Authority of Maine for certain health care professionals who commit to living and working in the State for at least 3 years. The authority may, as funds permit, make loan repayments on behalf of eligible program participants to address critical workforce shortages exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to the behavioral health and oral care sectors. Under the program, the authority shall pay up to \$25,000 per year and, in aggregate, the lesser of \$75,000 and 50% of the recipient's outstanding student loan balance.
- 2. Fund established. The Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Fund is established within the Finance Authority of Maine as a nonlapsing fund. The fund may accept appropriations, donations and other funds from various sources, including state, federal and private sources. Costs and expenses of maintaining, servicing and administering the program may be paid out of the fund.
- **3. Rules.** The Finance Authority of Maine may adopt routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to carry out the purposes of the program, including application requirements and program eligibility.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 181 S.P. 176 - L.D. 390

An Act to Establish a Primary Election Period for Unenrolled Candidates in Order to Receive Campaign Contributions in Amounts Equal to Amounts Allowed for Enrolled Candidates in the Same Period

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1015, sub-§3-A is enacted to read:

3-A. Contributions to candidate seeking nomination by petition; primary election period. For the purposes of contribution limits under subsections 1 and 2-B applicable to a candidate seeking nomination by petition, "any election," when referring to a primary election, includes the period beginning on the day after the most recent general election for the office that candidate is seeking and ending on the day of the primary election for that office.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 182 H.P. 349 - L.D. 530

An Act to Eliminate a Rebuttable Presumption Against the Admission of Certain Applicants to the Bar

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

- **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §805-A, sub-§2, ¶A,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 643, §1, is further amended to read:
 - A. Produces satisfactory evidence of good moral character-;
 - (1) The fact that an applicant has been convicted as an adult of a crime that is punishable by imprisonment of one year or more in this State or in another state or jurisdiction of the United States raises a presumption that the applicant has not met this requirement. This presumption may be rebutted by proof that a lawful pardon has been obtained, that extraordinary circumstances surrounded the commission of the crime or that a reasonable amount of time has passed since the applicant's conviction and completion of sentence and there is evidence of complete rehabilitation based on the applicant's subsequent history.