

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

11. Rulemaking. The superintendent may issue guidance by rule or otherwise setting forth any additional requirements and limitations for apprentice insurance producer licensing and sponsorship, including eligible and ineligible lines of insurance and limitations or standards for commissions. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, chapter 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 239

H.P. 580 - L.D. 915

An Act to Modernize Deed Duplication from Microfilm to a Digital Image

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §651, 3rd ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 55, §1, is amended to read:

The register shall prepare, or have prepared, a ~~microfilm~~ record of each page of every instrument, plan or other document recorded in the registry office. The ~~microfilm~~ record made must be stored in a fireproof area and a digital image stored on magnetic or optical media. When original record books or plans are considered by the register to be in a condition that warrants withdrawal from regular use, the register may make a true copy of the contents of the record or may provide suitable means for reading the ~~microfilm, microfiche or~~ digital image stored on magnetic or optical media of the instruments withdrawn. The records and certified copies made either from the true copy or from images stored as provided in this section must be received in all courts of law with the same legal effect as those contained in the original.

Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §652, 3rd ¶, as amended by PL 2019, c. 439, §1, is further amended to read:

Paper plans submitted for recording must be rolled and not folded. The register may return plans that are not legible for recording and archival purposes and the processing of which may damage county equipment or resources. The register shall permanently file the original, create a digital image of the plan at a minimum of 300 dots per inch or 300 pixels per inch and maintain a copy for public inspection in paper or digital image form. Each plan must be ~~microfilmed~~ maintained as a digital image stored on magnetic or optical media for archival purposes. Each register shall maintain an index of all plans on record in the register's office.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 240

H.P. 928 - L.D. 1406

An Act to Amend Certain Definitions in the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act

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

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to apply to cases of abuse or neglect of a child or jeopardy to health or welfare of a child as soon as possible; 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. 22 MRSA §4002, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 176, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Abuse or neglect. "Abuse or neglect" means a threat to a child's health or welfare by physical, mental or emotional injury or impairment; or sexual abuse or exploitation including under Title 17-A, sections 282, 852, 853 and 855 ~~or deprivation of essential needs~~; or lack of protection from these, by a person responsible for the child. "Abuse or neglect" also means serious harm or threat of serious harm by a person responsible for the child due to inadequate care or supervision of the child or deprivation of food, clothing, shelter, education or medical care necessary for the child's health or welfare by that person when that person is financially able to provide food, clothing, shelter, education or medical care necessary for the child's health or welfare or is offered lawful and reasonable financial means or resources to do so. "Abuse or neglect" also means truancy under Title 20-A, section 3272, subsection 2, paragraph C or section 5051-A, subsection 1, paragraph C or D when truancy is the result of neglect by a person responsible for the child. "Abuse or neglect" also means a threat to a child's health or welfare caused by child sex trafficking by any person, regardless of whether or not the person is responsible for the child.

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

Effective June 10, 2025.