

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REVISED STATUTES  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE  
1954

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1961 CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENT

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ANNOTATED

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IN FIVE VOLUMES

**VOLUME 4**

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**Discard Previous Pocket Part Supplement**

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THE MICHIE COMPANY  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
1961

**Sec. 21. Additional powers of court.**

**II.** To require the respondent to make payments at specified intervals to the clerk of the court and to report personally to such clerk at such times as may be deemed necessary. (1955, c. 5, § 3)

**III.** To punish the respondent who shall violate any order of the court to the same extent as is provided by law for contempt of the court in any other suit or proceeding cognizable by the court or an execution may issue as in actions of tort. When the respondent is committed to jail for contempt or on execution issued, as provided, the county having jurisdiction of the process shall bear the expense of his support and commitment and he may be discharged in the same manner as provided by section 64 of chapter 166. (1949, c. 297. 1951, c. 186. 1953, c. 248. 1955, c. 5, § 3. 1957, c. 22.)

**Effect of amendments.** — The 1955 amendment deleted the words "or the obligee" after the word "court" in line two of subsection II. of tort" in the first sentence and added the second sentence in subsection III. As the rest of the section was not changed by the amendments, only subsections II and III are set out.

The 1957 amendment added the words "or an execution may issue as in actions

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## Chapter 167-A.

### Uniform Civil Liability for Support Act.

**Sec. 1. Definitions.**—As used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

"Child" means a son or daughter under the age of 21 years and a son or daughter of whatever age who is incapacitated from earning a living and without sufficient means.

"Obligee" means any person to whom a duty of support is owed.

"Obligor" means any person owing a duty of support.

"Parent" includes either a natural parent or an adoptive parent.

"State" includes any state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico. (1955, c. 328.)

"Incapacitated from earning a living," etc.—A petition which alleged that a daughter twenty-eight years of age "is without means, unable to maintain herself and is likely to become a public charge" was held equivalent to the words "incapacitated from earning a living and without sufficient means." *Rosenberg v. Rosenberg*, 152 Me. 161, 125 A. (2d) 863.

**Sec. 2. Man's duty of support.**—Every man shall support his wife and his child; and his parent when in need. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 3. Woman's duty of support.** — Every woman shall support her child; and her husband and her parent when in need. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 4. Extent of duties of support.**—An obligor present or resident in this state has the duty of support as defined in this chapter regardless of the presence or residence of the obligee. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 5. Jurisdiction.**—The superior court shall have jurisdiction of all proceedings brought under this chapter. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 6. Amount of support.**—When determining the amount due for support the court shall consider all relevant factors including but not limited to:

**I.** The standard of living and situation of the parties;

**II.** The relative wealth and income of the parties;

**III.** The ability of the obligor to earn;

**IV.** The ability of the obligee to earn;

**V.** The need of the obligee;

**VI.** The age of the parties;

**VII.** The responsibility of the obligor for the support of others. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 7. Modification of order.** — The court shall retain jurisdiction to modify or vacate the order of support where justice requires. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 8. Enforcement of rights.**—The obligee may enforce his right of support against the obligor and the state or any political subdivision thereof may proceed on behalf of the obligee to enforce his right of support against the obligor. Whenever the state or a political subdivision thereof furnishes support to an obligee, it has the same right as the obligee to whom the support was furnished, for the purpose of securing reimbursement and of obtaining continuing support. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 9. Appeals.**—Appeals may be taken from orders under this chapter as in other civil actions. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 10. Evidence of husband and wife.** — Laws attaching a privilege against the disclosure of communications between husband and wife are inapplicable under this chapter. Husband and wife are competent witnesses to testify to any relevant matter, including marriage and parentage. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 11. Rights additional to those now existing.**—The rights herein created are in addition to and not in substitution for any other rights. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 12. Uniformity of interpretation.** — This chapter shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states which enact it. (1955, c. 328.)

**Sec. 13. Short title.** — This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Civil Liability for Support Act. (1955, c. 328.)

## Chapter 168.

### Conveyances by Deed. Form and Construction. Trusts.

**Sec. 1. Conveyances by deed; what passes as realty.**

**Cross reference.**—See c. 158-A, §§ 1-10, re Uniform Gifts to Minors Act.

**Sec. 13. Conveyances to 2 or more.**—Conveyances not in mortgage, and devises of land to 2 or more persons, create estates in common, unless otherwise expressed. Deeds in which two or more grantees are named as joint tenants shall be construed as vesting an estate in fee simple in such grantees with right of survivorship.

(1955, c. 431.)

**Effect of amendment.**—The 1955 amendment rewrote the second sentence of the first paragraph. As the rest of the section was not changed by the amendment, only the first paragraph is set out.

**This section does not abolish joint tenancies,** but the intent to create such an estate must be clear and convincing. *Palmer v. Flint*, 156 Me. 103, 161 A. (2d) 837.

**Which are looked upon with favor.**—It may well be said that joint tenancies in this jurisdiction, for many practical reasons, are now being looked upon with favor rather than with disfavor. *Palmer v. Flint*, 156 Me. 103, 161 A. (2d) 837.

**Elements of joint tenancy.**—In the creation of joint tenancies, four essential elements are necessary, to wit: unity of time,