# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### **ACTS AND RESOLVES**

AS PASSED BY THE

## Ninety-ninth Legislature

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE

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### PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Ninety-ninth Legislature

1959

**CHAP. 18** 

PUBLIC LAWS, 1959

mutual fire insurance companies shall be fixed by the policyholders at their annual meeting and no policyholder or other person is allowed more than 15 votes by proxy.'

Effective September 12, 1959

#### Chapter 17

AN ACT Relating to Sale of Butter and Margarine Under Weights and Measures Law.

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

R. S., c. 32-A, § 33, amended. Section 33 of chapter 32-A of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section I of chapter 260 of the public laws of 1957, is amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 33. Butter, oleomargarine and margarine. Butter, oleomargarine and margarine shall be offered and exposed for sale and sold by weight, and when in package form these commodities shall be packaged only in units of 1/4 pound, 1/2 pound, one pound or multiples of one pound, avoirdupois weight.'

Effective September 12, 1959

#### Chapter 18

AN ACT Authorizing Public Utilities Commission to Determine Financial Responsibility of Motor Carriers of Passengers.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, compliance with sections 10 to 12 of chapter 48 of the Revised Statutes imposes hardship upon motor carriers of passengers for hire, particularly because of non-cancellability features of insurance policies and indemnity bonds required under such sections; and

Whereas, continued operation by such carriers is essential to the welfare of the State and the various communities served by such carriers; and

Whereas, adoption of the following legislation is necessary to ensure the continuance of services provided by such carriers; 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 public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., c. 48, §§ 10-12, repealed and replaced. Sections 10 to 12 of chapter 48 of the Revised Statutes are repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 10. Financial responsibility for liability for personal injury or property damage. The Secretary of State shall not register any motor vehicle or trailer

subject to the supervision and control of the Public Utilities Commission under sections 1 to 18, and the commission shall not issue a certificate permitting the operation of such motor vehicle or trailer, and no person or persons shall operate or cause to be operated upon any public highway any such motor vehicle or trailer unless, in the opinion of the commission, the owner or owners thereof are financially responsible through insurance, indemnity bond or otherwise to respond to any legal liability for personal injury, the death of any person or property damage which may result from or have been caused by the use or operation of such motor vehicle or trailer.

When, in the opinion of the commission, the carrier's insurance, indemnity bond or other proof of financial responsibility is inadequate to meet its legal liabilities under this section, the commission shall forthwith require that the registration plates issued to said carrier by the Secretary of State be returned thereto.

Sec. II. Extent of financial responsibility. The extent to which such financial responsibility shall be required shall be determined by the commission and shall be subject to change from time to time.

Sec. 12. Filing of proof. The commission may require such proof of insurance or indemnity bond or such form of insurance or indemnity bond or such appointment of agent for service of process or the deposit or segregation of such securities or such proof of other type of financial responsibility as it shall deem appropriate to the establishment and continuance of such financial responsibility. No insurance or indemnity bond given to satisfy the requirements of sections 10 to 12 shall lapse, expire or be cancelled until at least 30 days' written notice shall have been given to the commission and the Secretary of State of an intention to cancel by the insurer or bond guarantor. Carriers may take exceptions to the commission's action under sections 10 to 12 as prescribed in applicable provisions of chapter 44.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Effective February 24, 1959

#### Chapter 19

#### AN ACT Relating to Municipal Borrowing.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts of Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after the Legislature adjourns; and

Whereas, municipalities will need the borrowing powers contained in this legislation immediately; and

Whereas, borrowed funds are essential for the operation of public schools and municipal fire and police services; 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