

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

business. It is the intent of the Legislature that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly.

Sec. 37. Definition of public proceedings. The term "public proceedings" as used in sections 36 to 41 shall mean the transactions of any functions affecting any or all citizens of the State by any administrative or legislative body of the State, or of any of its counties or municipalities, or of any other political subdivision of the State, which body is composed of 3 or more members, with which function it is charged under any statute or under any rule or regulation of such administrative or legislative body or agency.

Sec. 38. Meetings to be open to the public. All public proceedings shall be open to the public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meetings of these bodies or agencies, and any minutes of such meetings as are required by law shall be promptly recorded and open to public inspection, except as otherwise specifically provided by statute.

Sec. 39. Executive sessions. Nothing contained in sections 36 to 41 shall be construed to prevent these bodies or agencies from holding executive sessions, subject to the following conditions: that such sessions shall not be used to defeat the purposes of sections 36 to 41; that no ordinances, orders, rules, resolutions, regulations, contracts, appointments or other official action shall be finally approved at such executive sessions; that such executive sessions may be called only by a majority vote of the members of such bodies or agencies. The conditions of this section shall not apply to executive sessions of committees of the Maine Legislature.

Sec. 40. Minutes and records available for public inspection. Every citizen of this State shall, during the regular business or meeting hours of all such bodies or agencies, and on the regular business premises of all such bodies or agencies, have the right to inspect all public records, including any minutes of meetings of such bodies or agencies as are required by law, and to make memoranda abstracts or photographic or photostatic copies of the records or minutes so inspected, except as otherwise specifically provided by statute.

Sec. 41. Violation. A violation of any of the provisions of sections 36 to 41 or the wrongful exclusion of any person or persons from any meetings for which provision is made shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for less than one year. Nothing contained in sections 36 to 41 shall be construed as abridging the right of any citizen or citizens to appeal to a court of this State for the enforcement of the rights provided for in said sections.

Effective September 12, 1959

Chapter 220

AN ACT Relating to Capital Shares of Insurance Corporations.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 60, § 3, amended. Section 3 of chapter 60 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end the following sentences:

'Exempt from the above shall be such shares of capital stock as shall be authorized by a majority of the company's stockholders at any meeting duly called for such purpose and reserved under such vote for stock option purposes. When options are exercised such increase in capital stock shall be duly certified to the commissioner for his approval as provided for in section 43.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 60, § 43, amended. Section 43 of chapter 60 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end the following sentences:

'Exempt from such officers' certification shall be such shares of capital stock as shall be authorized by a majority of the company's stockholders at any meeting duly called for such purpose and reserved under such vote for stock option purposes. When options are exercised such increase in capital stock shall be duly certified to the commissioner for his approval as provided in this section.'

Effective September 12, 1959

Chapter 221

AN ACT Relating to Driver Education.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 22, § 60-A, additional. Chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section to be numbered 60-A, to read as follows:

'Sec. 60-A. Driver education. After the first day of September, 1960, no operator's license shall be issued to any person under 17 years of age unless such person shall present a certificate of successful completion of a driver education course and examination given by the public secondary schools and academies receiving tuition students as described in chapter 41, section 107; or certificate of successful completion of a driver education course and examination given by some person or persons licensed by the Secretary of State. Licenses shall be issued upon presentation of a certificate of approval issued by the State Board of Education. The fee for such license shall be \$25 per year, except that no license shall be required of teachers conducting a driver education course in public secondary schools or academies receiving tuition students as described in chapter 41, section 107. All licenses expire on December 31st of the year of issue.

Successful course completion certificates may be issued to any person permitted by law to have a license provided such course shall meet teacher qualification, course content and standards approved by the State Board of Education. Successful course completion certificates shall not be issued to any person who was not at least 15 years of age at the commencement of the road instruction phase of the course.

Any person between the ages of 15 and 17, who satisfies the Secretary of State that no readily available means of transportation exists to and from a secondary school or academy which he is attending, may be issued, upon passing the regular driver's examination as provided in section 60, a special permit authorizing such person to drive to and from such school or academy.'