

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE
One Hundred and Sixth Legislature
1ST SPECIAL SESSION
JANUARY 2, 1974 TO MARCH 29, 1974
AND BY THE
One Hundred and Seventh Legislature
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 1, 1975 TO JULY 2, 1975

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE REVISED STATUTES OF 1964, TITLE 3,
SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

THE KNOWLTON AND MCLEARY COMPANY
FARMINGTON, MAINE
1975

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
One Hundred and Sixth Legislature

AT THE
SPECIAL SESSION

January 2, 1974

to

March 29, 1974

1974-75

BUREAU OF TAXATION

Tax Relief for the Elderly
All Other

\$500,000

Effective June 28, 1974

CHAPTER 772

AN ACT to Clarify the Power of the Commissioner of Maine Department of Transportation and the Chief of the Maine State Police to Lower Speed Limits in Order to Provide Energy Conservation.

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

Whereas, shortages of petroleum products have necessitated the lowering of speed limits throughout the State of Maine; and

Whereas, the authority of the Commissioner of Transportation and the Chief of the State Police to order reductions in speed limits should be clarified; 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. R. S., T. 29, § 1251, amended. The first sentence of section 1251 of Title 29 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Except as provided in section 1255 and notwithstanding section 1252, subsection 2, the Commissioner of Transportation, with the consent and approval of the Governor and Executive Council and the Chief of the Maine State Police, shall have authority to restrict the speed of all motor vehicles at any and all points on the highway where in the opinion of the commissioner, with the consent and approval of the Governor and Executive Council and the Chief of the Maine State Police, a rate of speed less than that now authorized by law will minimize the danger of accident, promote the free flow of traffic, or otherwise serve the public interest, and in each such place shall fix the rate of speed in accordance with his own judgment.

Sec. 2. Application. In the event "AN ACT to Conserve Energy on the Nation's Highways," H. R. 11372 as enacted by the United States Congress, shall cease to be in effect on and after the date on which the President declares that there is not a fuel shortage requiring the application of this Act, or on and after June 30, 1975, whichever date first occurs, this Act shall be null and void.

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

Effective March 29, 1974

CHAPTER 773

AN ACT Relating to Legislative Ethics and the Disclosure of Certain Information by Legislators.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 3, § 380, additional. Title 3 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 380 to read as follows:

§ 380. Definitions

As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context otherwise indicates.

1. **Close economic association.** "Close economic association" includes the employers, employees, partners or clients of the Legislator or a member of his immediate family; corporations in which the Legislator or a member of his immediate family is an officer, director or agent or owns 10% or more of the outstanding capital stock; a business which is a significant unsecured creditor of the Legislator or a member of his immediate family, or a business of which the Legislator or a member of his immediate family is a significant unsecured creditor.

2. **Immediate family.** "Immediate family" shall mean a Legislator's spouse and dependent children.

3. **Income.** "Income" shall mean economic gain to a person from whatever source derived, including, but not limited to, the following items: Compensation for services including fees, commissions and payments in kind; income derived from business; gains derived from dealings in property; rents; royalties; income from investments including interest, capital gains and dividends; alimony and separate maintenance payments; annuities; income from life insurance and endowment contracts; pensions; income from discharge of indebtedness; distributive share of partnership income; income from an interest in an estate or trust; and prizes, awards, grants and gifts.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 3, § 381, sub-§§ 4 and 5, repealed. Subsection 4, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 602 of the public laws of 1971 and subsection 5, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 602 of the public laws of 1971, both of section 381 of Title 3 of the Revised Statutes, are repealed.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 3, § 381-A, additional. Title 3 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 381-A to read as follows:

§ 381-A. Authority; procedures

1. **Authority.** The committee shall have the authority: