

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

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THE KNOWLTON AND MCLEARY COMPANY
FARMINGTON, MAINE
1975

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
One Hundred and Seventh Legislature

1975

CHAPTER 574

AN ACT to Require Notification of Assistance to Indigent Persons.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 4483 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 4483. Reimbursement to individuals relieving indigents; prior approval; emergencies

Municipalities, as provided in section 4497, shall pay expenses necessarily incurred for services provided to indigent persons anywhere in the State by any person not liable for their support, provided the municipality so liable shall be notified and shall approve such expenses and services prior to their delivery, except as provided in this section. In the event of an emergency admission of an indigent person to a hospital, notification shall be made within 3 business days to the liable municipality. Notification of such emergency admission shall mean the receipt by municipal overseers of the poor of either a direct notice by telephone confirmed by a certified letter deposited in the United States mail or a written notice. In the event of the death of an indigent person, written notification must be made prior to burial to the liable municipality.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 4497, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 470, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 4497. Municipal relief of the poor; resident defined

Overseers of the poor of a municipality or some person or persons designated by them to act in their behalf shall have the care of all eligible persons who are residents of the municipality and shall cause them to be relieved at the expense of that municipality, except as provided in section 4499. For the purposes of this section, a "resident" is defined as a person who has lived in a municipality for a period of at least 30 consecutive days immediately prior to the date of the person's application for assistance, the date of the person's receipt of out-patient treatment at or admission to a hospital or the date of the person's death.

Overseers of the poor of a municipality shall also have the care of eligible persons who apply to them for assistance and who are neither residents of that municipality nor of any other municipality and shall cause them to be relieved at the expense of that municipality.

Overseers of the poor and other officers having charge of the administration of welfare funds shall keep full and accurate records of the names of indigent persons so relieved or supported, together with the amounts paid by them for such support and relief and shall make annual returns of the number of such persons supported and relieved, with the costs, to the Department of Health and Welfare.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA § 4505, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 788, § 94, is amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

All proceedings relating to the grant, denial, reduction, suspension or termination of relief provided under this chapter are not public proceedings under Title I, chapter 13, unless otherwise requested by the applicant or recipient.

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA § 4508 is enacted to read :

§ 4508. Confidentiality of information

Records, papers, files and communications relating to an applicant or recipient made or received by persons charged with responsibility of administering this chapter are confidential and no information relating to a person who is an applicant or recipient may be disclosed to the general public, unless expressly permitted by that person.

Effective October 1, 1975

CHAPTER 575

AN ACT to Require Appointment of a Public Member to all Professional and Occupational Licensing Boards.

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA § 801, first and 3rd sentences, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 286, § 1, are amended to read :

The Board of Examiners for the Examination of Applicants for Admission to the Bar, as heretofore established and hereinafter in this chapter called the "board," shall be composed of 5 competent lawyers of the State and one representative of the public; one lawyer member of said board shall be appointed annually by the Governor on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court and shall hold office for the term of 5 years beginning on the first day of September of each year. The public member shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of 5 years, to begin on the first day of September of the year in which he is appointed.

In addition to the 5 6 members of the board, 2 additional members of the board shall be appointed, in the first instance one for a term ending August 31, 1973 and one for a term ending August 31, 1975, by the Governor on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, and that after the initial terms, each subsequently appointed additional member shall hold office for the term of 5 years beginning on the first day of September of the year concerned.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA § 801, first ¶, last sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1971, c. 286, § 1, is amended to read :

~~Three~~ Four members of said board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA § 2053, 5th ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1969, c. 241, § 2, is amended to read :

A board of examiners for the licensing of guides shall consist of the commissioner or such subordinate officer of the department as the commissioner