

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 5, 1977 to July 25, 1977

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

PORTLAND LITHOGRAPH COMPANY
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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

of the
ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

1977

CHAPTER 411

AN ACT Granting Implied Powers to the Public Utilities Commission.

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

35 MRSA § 313 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 313. Implied powers

The provisions of chapters 1 to 17 shall be interpreted and construed liberally in order to accomplish the purposes therein. The commission shall have all implied and inherent powers pursuant to chapters 1 to 17 which are necessary and proper to faithfully execute its express powers and functions specified in chapters 1 to 17. A substantial compliance with the requirements of chapters 1 to 17 shall be sufficient to give effect to all the rules, orders, acts and regulations of the commission, and they shall not be declared inoperative, illegal or void for any omission of a technical and immaterial nature in respect thereto. Each section of chapters 1 to 17, and every part of each section, are hereby declared to be independent sections and the holding of any section or sections or part or parts thereof to be void, ineffective or unconstitutional for any cause shall not be deemed to affect any other section or part thereof.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 412

AN ACT to Allow Public Inspection of Absentee Ballot Applications and Envelopes.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA § 1263 is enacted to read:

§ 1263. Applications and envelopes as public records

Absentee ballot applications and absentee ballot return envelopes are public records until the close of voting on election day. After that time, such applications and envelopes are not public records and may be inspected only in accordance with this Title.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA § 1577, sub-§ 1, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 761, § 56, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Exceptions. Ballots are not public records and may be inspected only in accordance with this Title.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 413

AN ACT to Require Implementation of Standards of Treatment for Residential Drug Treatment Centers Related to Special Education.

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

22 MRSA § 7115, sub-§ 1, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 566, § 1, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

The standards of treatment may include provision for special education services for any exceptional children, as defined by Title 20, section 3123, subsection 1, residing therein, pursuant to Title 20, chapter 404.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 414

AN ACT Amending the Maine Property Insurance Cancellation Control Act.

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

Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA § 3049, last ¶, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 239, is amended to read:

This section shall not apply to any policy or coverage which has been in effect less than 60 days at the time notice of cancellation is mailed or delivered by the insurer unless it is a renewal policy. ~~This section shall not apply to the nonrenewal of a policy.~~ An insured shall not have the right to a hearing before the Superintendent of Insurance for the purpose of contesting cancellation of a new policy that has been in force less than 60 days.

This section shall not apply to the nonrenewal of a policy.

Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA § 3050, first ¶, last sentence, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 239 and as amended by PL 1973, c. 585, § 12, is repealed as follows: