

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1979 to June 15, 1979

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29 MRSA § 252, first ¶, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 194, § 1, is further amended to read:

On annual application to the Secretary of State, with the payment of \$1, any handicapped person or the spouse, **parents or legal guardian** of a handicapped person who has registered a motor vehicle as the motor vehicle of principal use by the handicapped person shall be issued a set of special designating plates to be used in place of the regular registration plates or placard to be fixed to the sun visor of a motor vehicle registered by such a person. Such placard shall be so affixed that the information thereon shall be clearly legible from outside the motor vehicle. Such placard issued under this section shall include the motor vehicle registration plate number of the vehicle registered in the name of the handicapped person or the spouse, **parents or legal guardian of the handicapped person**. When the Secretary of State deems it appropriate, a placard may be issued to any handicapped person who does not have a duly registered motor vehicle. In such cases the placard may be displayed on any motor vehicle properly registered in this State but it may only be so displayed during the time when the handicapped person is a passenger in the vehicle, when the driver of the vehicle is transporting the handicapped person or when the driver is waiting for a service to be rendered to the handicapped person.

Effective September 14, 1979

CHAPTER 75

H. P. 419 — L. D. 532

AN ACT Raising the Amount of the Homestead Exemption in Attachment and Bankruptcy Proceedings.

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

Sec. 1. 14 MRSA § 4551, first sentence, as amended by PL 1977, c. 453, § 5, is further amended to read:

Except as provided in section 4552, a homestead whenever acquired shall be exempt from attachment, execution or forced sale under process of any court, and no judgment, decree or execution shall be a lien thereon; provided that only so much of such property as does not exceed ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500** in value is exempt.

Sec. 2. 14 MRSA § 4553, first ¶ and subsection 1, as amended by PL 1977, c. 453, § 6, are further amended to read:

If the interest of a householder in his homestead exceeds ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500**, it may be subjected to a forced sale. The householder may set off such part thereof which is

of a value of ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500** and designate that portion as exempt from sale. If the householder fails to so designate such portion, the whole of the property shall be sold and the proceeds of said sale shall be distributed as follows:

1. To the householder in the amount of ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500**; and said ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500** shall remain exempt from attachment and execution by any creditor for a period of one year. At the end of said period, if the ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500** is not reinvested in property which qualifies for a homestead exemption, the ~~\$5,000~~ **\$6,500** shall become subject to attachment and execution;

Sec. 3. Effective date. This bill shall take effect July 1, 1980.

Effective July 1, 1980

CHAPTER 76

S. P. 202 — L. D. 534

AN ACT to Establish a Sign on the Maine Turnpike for Lost Valley.

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

23 MRSA § 1201, sub-§ 31 is enacted to read:

31. **Lost Valley Ski Area.** Such sign shall be constructed and maintained on the Maine Turnpike between exits 11 and 12 and shall be worded as follows:

LOST VALLEY SKI AREA - Next Exit

Effective September 14, 1979

CHAPTER 77

H. P. 361 — L. D. 470

AN ACT to Permit Participating Local Districts of the Maine State Retirement System to Discontinue Special Retirement Benefits Prospectively.

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

5 MRSA § 1092, sub-§ 3, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 622, § 23, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: