

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 3, 1980 to June 19, 1981

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
August 3, 1981

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

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
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expenses of medical, surgical and hospital care and treatment and for reasonable funeral expenses, and in addition thereto may give damages not exceeding \$10,000 \$50,000 for the loss of comfort, society and companionship of the deceased to the persons for whose benefit the action is brought, provided that the action shall be commenced within 2 years after the decedent's death.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 214

H. P. 1327 — L. D. 1521

AN ACT to Amend the Tax Law Providing a One-time Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans, World War I Veterans and Persons Claiming from World War I Veterans.

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

Whereas, the 90-day period will not terminate before real property taxes are assessed on April 1, 1981; and

Whereas, the Supreme Judicial Court in December, 1980, declared unconstitutional certain sections of the law providing for veterans' property tax exemptions; and

Whereas, certain veterans residing in Maine will no longer be eligible for an exemption, unless the law is amended to be effective for April 1st; and

Whereas, many of those veterans and their families are in serious need of property tax relief; and

Whereas, the law enacted this session needs correction in order to accomplish the intent of the Legislature; 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. 36 MRSA § 653, sub-§ 1, ¶ F, sub-¶ (4), first sentence, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 133, § 4, is amended to read:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph, prior to April 1, 1982, any person claiming an exemption under paragraph C who is receiving any form of pension or compensation from the Federal Government for total disability, service-connected or nonservice-connected, as a veteran, and any person claiming an exemption under paragraph C-1, D, D-1, D-2 or D-3 shall not be required to meet the standards specified in subparagraphs (1) and (2).

Sec. 2. PL 1981, c. 133, § 7 is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

Sec. 7. **Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1981-82	1982-83
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
Bureau of Taxation		
All Other	\$36,000	— 0 —

Emergency clause; retroactivity. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved and shall be applied retroactively to the property tax year beginning April 1, 1981.

Effective April 30, 1981, unless otherwise indicated

CHAPTER 215

H. P. 643 — L. D. 733

AN ACT Relating to Winter Closing of Town Ways.

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

23 MRSA § 2953, as amended by PL 1979, c. 597, §§ 1 and 2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 2953. Closing of roads in winter

1. **Announcement of winter closing of roads.** The municipal officers may on their own initiative, or upon petition by 7 legal voters of the municipality, at any time between May 1st and October 1st of any year, set forth that any road or roads, or portion thereof, in the municipality are so located with reference to population, use and travel thereon, that it is unnecessary to keep the road or roads