

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
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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
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Maine Committee on Aging pursuant to section 5112, subsection 2; the Office of Advocacy pursuant to Title 34, section 1-A; and any other agency or person whom the Commissioner of Human Services and the Commissioner of Mental Health and Corrections may designate.

2. **Professionals to report.** Any professional who provides health care, social services or mental health services or who administers a long-term care facility or program and who knows of or has reasonable cause to suspect that there has been a violation of any of those regulations promulgated by the Department of Human Services governing the licensure of long-term care facilities pertaining to residents' rights or conduct of resident care shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to an agency or person referred to in subsection 1.

3. **Written report of findings.** Any agency or person investigating a situation pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 shall submit a written report of the findings and results of the investigation to the administrator of the long-term care facility in which the residents' rights allegedly have been violated; to the Commissioner of Human Services; and, if the resident is mentally ill or mentally retarded or has a related condition, to the Commissioner of Mental Health and Corrections.

4. **Immunity from liability.** No professional shall be held liable for any report or action taken pursuant thereto if the professional acted in good faith pursuant to this section.

5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the powers or responsibilities of the nursing home and boarding home ombudsman.

§ 7925. Discharges and transfers

Long-term care facilities which receive public funds may not discharge or transfer any person solely based on a change in their source of payment.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 446

H. P. 992 — L. D. 1180

AN ACT to Regulate the Use of Motor Vehicles on Ice-covered Bodies of Water.

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

30 MRSA § 2151, sub-§ 7 is enacted to read:

7. **Vehicles on icebound inland waters.** Providing for the regulation of motor vehicles as defined in Title 29, section 1, subsection 7, on icebound inland lakes

during the hours from sunset to sunrise of the following day, but no such regulation is valid unless each municipality abutting the lake has enacted an identical local regulation or ordinance. When an identical regulation or ordinance has been enacted, the regulation or ordinance of any individual municipality is in effect on the entire lake and any law enforcement officer of any such municipality may enforce the regulation on any portion of the lake.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 447

S. P. 629 — L. D. 1638

AN ACT to Increase Local Control of Water Districts.

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

Sec. 1. 35 MRSA c. 262 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 262

WATER DISTRICTS

§ 3221. Short title; purpose

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Maine Water District Act." The purpose of this chapter is to provide minimum guidelines to the water districts chartered under private and special laws of the Legislature. These guidelines will provide more public participation and more accountability for water districts, and encourage the maximum degree of local control consistent with protection of health and economic welfare of the citizens.

§ 3222. Definition; formation of districts

1. **Water district.** "Water district" means any district, including any multipurpose district, created by the private and special laws of the State to perform the functions of a water company, as defined by section 15, subsection 25.

2. **Formation.** The formation of water districts under the private and special laws to provide public drinking water supplies is encouraged. The question of the formation of the proposed district shall be submitted to the voters residing within it for approval by majority vote.

§ 3223. Trustees

1. **Authorization.** All of the affairs of a water district shall be managed by an