

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
December 1, 1982 to June 24, 1983  
Chapters 1-452

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

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J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.  
Augusta, Maine  
1983

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**PUBLIC LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED AT THE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

and

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

1983

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## CHAPTER 41

S.P. 43 - L.D. 101

AN ACT to Clarify the "Hearing Ear" Dog  
Law.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3612, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 584, §5, is amended to read:

3. Guide dogs. Every deaf or hearing impaired person shall have the right to be accompanied by a guide dog, described and known as a "hearing ear" dog, especially trained for the purpose, and identified by a ~~bright orange~~ hunter orange collar and leash colored hunter orange, as that color is defined in Title 12, section 7001, subsection 16, in any of the places listed in subsection 2 without being required to pay an extra charge for the guide dog, provided that he shall be liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by that dog. When the deaf or hearing impaired person is accompanied by a guide dog, he shall also carry a card, issued by the Bureau of Rehabilitation, which states that the dog is an especially trained guide dog, and cites Title 22, sections 3611 and 3612 as allowing for access by the person and his dog to streets, public places and public conveyances.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3613, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 584, §5, is amended to read:

§3613. Motor vehicle drivers

The driver of a vehicle approaching a deaf or hearing impaired person using a properly identified guide dog shall take all necessary precautions to avoid injury to that person and the guide dog, and any driver who fails to take such precautions shall be liable in damages for any injury caused to that person or dog. A deaf or hearing impaired person not using a guide dog in any of the places, accommodations or conveyances listed in section 3612 shall have all of the rights and privileges conferred by law upon other persons, and the failure of a deaf or hearing impaired person to use a guide dog in those places, accommodations or conveyances shall not be held to constitute nor be evidence of contributory negligence.