

# 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 232

H.P. 744 - L.D. 956

AN ACT to Amend the Law  
Governing Construction Permits and  
the Examination of Plans by the  
Office of State Fire Marshal.

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

Sec. 1. 25 MRS §2448, as amended by PL 1979, c. 208, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§2448. Construction permit; when required

No property owner, agent or representative of the owner may construct, alter or change the use of any structure to become a public building without first obtaining from the Commissioner of Public Safety a permit therefor. A request for a permit shall be accompanied by a true copy of the plans and specifications for that construction, reconstruction or change of use. The commissioner shall issue a permit only if the plans comply with statutes and lawful regulations promulgated to reduce fire hazards.

The term "public building" shall include any building or structure constructed, operated or maintained for use by the general public, which shall include, but not be limited to, all buildings or portions of buildings used for a schoolhouse, hospital, convalescent, nursing or boarding home to be licensed by the Department of Human Services, Division of Licensing and Certification; theater or other place of public assembly, mercantile occupancy over 3,000 square feet, hotel, motel or business occupancy of 2 or more stories; or any building to be state owned or operated.

The term "true copy" means an accurate representation by dimensioned plans and specifications of the final construction documents.

Sec. 2. 25 MRS §2450, as amended by PL 1979, c. 186, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§2450. Examinations by State Fire Marshal

The Commissioner of Public Safety shall, in accordance with requirements of the Maine Administra-

tive Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, adopt a schedule of fees for the examination of all plans for construction, reconstruction or repairs submitted to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. No fee charged pursuant to this section may exceed \$55. The fees shall be credited to the State Fire Marshal to defray the expenses of that office. Any balance of the fees shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward as a continuing account to be expended for the same purpose in the following fiscal years.

Effective September 23, 1983.

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## CHAPTER 233

H.P. 746 - L.D. 958

### AN ACT Relating to Deposits and Termination of Utility Service for Nonresidential Customers.

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

Sec. 1. 35 MRSA §105, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 378, is amended to read:

§105. Utility deposits

No public utility shall may require any deposit of any residential customer without proof that the customer is likely to be a credit risk or to damage the property of the utility. ~~Such~~ That proof shall be furnished to the customer upon request. Absence of previous experience with the utility shall not be proof that the customer is a credit risk or threatens to damage utility property.

No later than December 31, 1983, every public utility shall file with the commission schedules containing its terms and conditions for requiring a deposit from nonresidential customers, which terms and conditions shall be subject to the commission's power under chapters 1 to 17. Every public utility shall comply with its terms and conditions. The commission shall adopt rules which provide a procedure for resolution by the commission or its delegate of disputes as to whether a deposit being required by a public utility is in compliance with its terms and conditions. If the rules authorize a delegate to resolve disputes, the rules shall include a procedure for appeal of the decision to the commission.