

# 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 263**

S.P. 24 - L.D. 25

AN ACT to Amend the Social Worker Registration Act with Respect to Employment by Nursing Homes and to Foster Coordination with State and Federal Regulations Governing Required Social Services in Nursing Homes.

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

Whereas, the provision of the social worker registration law exempting employees of nursing homes from requirements of licensing or supervision under that law will expire on July 1, 1983, if this legislation is not enacted; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 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:

32 MRSA § 7003, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1981, c. 172, is further amended to read:

3. Employment by a nursing home. The person is employed by a nursing home licensed under Title 22, section 1811 and that person is engaging in the independent practice of social work on behalf of a nursing home. This exemption expires on July 1, 1983 1985.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective May 13, 1983.

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**CHAPTER 264**

S.P. 131 - L.D. 318

AN ACT to Make the Single Axle Limit Uniform.

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

29 MRSA §1652, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by PL 1979, c. 174, is further amended to read:

B. No vehicle ~~shall~~ may be operated, or caused to be operated, with a gross weight exceeding ~~22,000~~ 22,400 pounds on a single axle unit, 38,000 pounds on a tandem axle unit or 48,000 pounds on a tri-axle unit, specifically excepting the Interstate Highway System as defined in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, where the single axle limit shall be 22,000 pounds and the tandem axle unit limit shall be 34,000 pounds; and provided that:

(1) Nothing contained in section 1655 ~~shall~~ may permit an axle or tandem axle weight on the Interstate Highway System as defined in the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 in excess of the limits established for ~~such~~ the system in this section;

(2) No single axle of a tandem axle unit ~~shall~~ may support more than 60% of the total weight supported by ~~such~~ that tandem axle unit. It shall not be deemed a violation of this subparagraph if neither axle of a tandem axle unit exceeds the weight legally allowed on a single axle unit of that vehicle;

(3) No single axle of a tri-axle unit ~~shall~~ may support more than 40% of the total weight supported by ~~such~~ that tri-axle unit; and

(4) The gross weight of a vehicle shall not be increased by the addition of a trailing axle, so called, unless ~~such~~ that axle supports at least 50% of the added weight permitted by the addition of ~~such~~ that trailing axle.

Effective September 23, 1983.

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## CHAPTER 265

S.P. 163 - L.D. 451

AN ACT Amending the Display of Registration Plates for Truck Tractors.