

# 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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the use of the Public Advocate. The commission shall determine the assessments annually prior to May 1st and shall assess each utility for its pro rata share. Each utility shall pay the assessment charged to the utility on or before July 1st of each year.

A. The assessments charged to utilities under this section shall be deemed just and reasonable operating costs for rate-making purposes.

B. For the purposes of this section, intrastate gross operating revenues means intrastate revenues derived from filed rates, except revenues derived from sales for resale.

Sec. 2. 35 MRSA §17, sub-§4, as amended by PL 1981, c. 479, §4, is further amended to read:

4. Use of funds. The Public Utilities Commission is authorized to fund ~~22~~ 25 employees beginning in the 1983-84 fiscal year from the revenues provided in this section to defray the costs incurred by the commission pursuant to this Title and to include administrative expenses, general regulatory expenses, consulting fees and all other reasonable costs incurred to administer this Title. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the number of employees funded by this section shall be increased by 10 on the effective date of this Act establishing the Public Advocate to compensate for an equivalent reduction in the number of employees funded by the General Fund revenues which elsewhere in this section are appropriated for the use of the Public Advocate.

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

Effective June 7, 1983.

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## CHAPTER 391

S.P. 566 - L.D. 1639

AN ACT to Increase the Number of Voting  
Booths Required in Maine Elections.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §603, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1977, c. 468, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Provided by municipality. The municipal officers of each municipality shall provide a sufficient number of voting booths for each election. Those municipalities using voting machines shall comply with section 1031, subsection 4. Those municipalities using voting devices shall comply with section 1062, subsection 4.

A. In a general election, the municipal officers shall provide at least one voting booth for each 150, or fraction exceeding 1/2 thereof, of the voters qualified to vote at each voting place.

B. In other than a general election, the municipal officers may provide fewer than the number of voting booths required by paragraph A when circumstances indicate that fewer booths will be adequate to provide for an orderly flow of voters on election day.

C. In an election, the municipal officers may provide more than the number of voting booths required by paragraph A.

D. A reasonable time prior to a general election, the Secretary of State shall send notice to the clerk of each municipality, stating the requirements of this subsection. The clerk shall calculate the number of voting booths required at each voting place based on the number of voters registered at that time. Within 10 days of receipt of the notice, the clerk shall certify in writing to the Secretary of State the number of voters registered at each voting place and the number of voting booths the municipality will provide at each voting place for the election.

E. The Secretary of State may arrange for inspections to ensure that municipalities comply with the requirements of this subsection.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §1031, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 414, §43, is amended to read:

4. Provided by municipality. In those municipal voting districts using voting machines, the municipal officers of each municipality shall provide at least one voting machine for each 450, or fraction exceeding 1/2 thereof, of the voters qualified to vote at each voting place.

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA §1062, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 761, section 36, is amended to read:

4. Provided by municipality. In those municipal voting districts using electronic voting systems, the municipal officers of each municipality shall provide

at least one voting device for each 250, or fraction exceeding 1/2 thereof, of the voters qualified to vote at each voting place.

Effective September 23, 1983.

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## CHAPTER 392

H.P. 835 - L.D. 1087

AN ACT to Permit the Use of State Funds  
for Rail Rehabilitation Projects and Townway  
Crossing Improvements.

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

23 MRSA §4207, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 221, is amended to read:

4. Cooperation, acceptance and use of federal, state, local or private funds. The Department of Transportation is authorized and empowered to may accept, for the State of Maine, federal funds that may be apportioned under the "Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973," (87 Stat. 985) as amended and supplemented, other federal funds, state funds and such municipal funds and private funds as may be available; to act for the State, in conjunction with the representatives of the Federal Government, municipal governments and private groups having a direct interest, in all matters relating to the acquisition, rehabilitation, construction or lease of railroad line or lines in the State of Maine and contracts for rail service continuation over railroad lines as provided in this section.

Effective September 23, 1983.

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## CHAPTER 393

H.P. 982 - L.D. 1283

AN ACT Relating to the Replacement of  
Existing Buildings within 33 feet of the  
Center Line of a State or State Aid Highway.

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