

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

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ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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

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

consultation with the bureau, to develop a firm public understanding of the current status of the human services, except services to older people in Maine, including information on effective programs elsewhere in the State or Nation, by collecting and disseminating information, conducting or commissioning studies and publishing the results thereof and by issuing publications and reports;

8. Administer funds. Administer, in accordance with current fiscal and accounting regulations of the State, and in accordance with the philosophy, objectives and authority of this Part and Part 2, any funds appropriated for expenditure by the council or any grants or gifts which may become available, accepted and received by the council; and make, ~~to be included in the annual report of the bureau, an annual report which shall be submitted directly to the director, commissioner,~~ an annual report to the Governor and Legislature not later than September 1st of each year concerning its work, recommendations and interests of the previous fiscal year and future plans; and shall make such interim reports as it deems advisable.

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

Effective June 7, 1983.

CHAPTER 410

H.P. 1250 - L.D. 1663

AN ACT Concerning Explanations for
Referenda Questions which Appear on a
Ballot.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA §702-A is enacted to read:

§702-A. Ballot items requiring voter approval

1. Wording of ballots for people's veto and initiative referenda. Ballots for a statewide vote on people's veto and initiative questions shall set out the question to be voted on in clear, concise and direct language. The Secretary of State, by rules

adopted pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, shall establish a method for drafting ballot questions which will attain that standard of readability.

2. Order of questions on the ballot. The Secretary of State shall arrange questions on the ballot in the following order: People's veto questions; initiated measures; bond issues; constitutional amendments; and other legislatively proposed referenda. Within each group, questions shall be arranged in a random order which is determined by a selection process conducted in public. All ballot questions shall be numbered sequentially.

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §1351, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Ballot question. The ballot question for initiative and people's veto referenda shall be drafted by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 702-A and rules adopted pursuant thereto. The question shall be conspicuously displayed on the face of the petition.

Effective September 23, 1983.

CHAPTER 411

H.P. 1201 - L.D. 1595

AN ACT Concerning the Admissibility in Criminal Proceedings of Statements by Minors Describing Sexual Contact.

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

15 MRSA §1205 is enacted to read:

§1205. Certain out-of-court statements made by minors describing sexual contact

A hearsay statement made by a person under the age of 14 years, describing any incident involving sexual intercourse, a sexual act or sexual contact performed with or on the minor by another, shall not be excluded as evidence in criminal proceedings in courts of this State if:

1. Emotional or psychological well-being of a person. On motion of the prosecution and in camera