

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

December 5, 1984 to June 20, 1985  
Chapters 384-End

AND AT THE

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

November 13, 1985

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REVISOR OF STATUTES IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,  
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

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J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.  
Augusta, Maine  
1985

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**PRIVATE AND  
SPECIAL LAWS**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED AT THE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

1985

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Labor or his designee shall have the authority to inspect railroad property to determine if unsafe or hazardous conditions exist.

2. Report to Legislative Committee. The Commissioner of Labor shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor during the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature with respect to the following:

- A. The occupational safety and health conditions to which railroad employees are subject;
- B. Efforts of any federal or state agency to establish and enforce occupational health and safety standards for railroad employers;
- C. The need for state standards to protect the health and safety of railroad employees on railroad property and in railroad rolling stock; and
- D. Recommendations for legislation which would assure the protection of the health and safety of railroad employees if that legislation is necessary.

3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$1,500 for fiscal year ending June 30, 1985, for the purposes of carrying out this Act. Any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall remain in a continuing carrying account until February 1, 1986.

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

Effective June 27, 1985.

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## CHAPTER 64

H.P. 552 - L.D. 824

AN ACT Concerning Access to Medical Care for  
Persons without Adequate Health  
Insurance.

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

Sec. 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that

access to medical care is limited or unavailable to many citizens of the State, whose income, resources or health insurance is insufficient to meet the cost of necessary medical services and who are ineligible for federally-assisted medical care services. The Legislature recognizes that inadequate health coverage discourages the prevention of serious medical conditions, creates severe hardship and suffering for the individual in need of care and leads to increased use of costly tertiary care, particularly in-patient hospital care.

Sec. 2. Study on access to medical care. The Human Services Development Institute of the Center for Research and Advanced Study at the University of Southern Maine is directed to conduct a study on the extent to which Maine citizens are without adequate medical care because of their lack of income and resources and to report its findings, including any necessary legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by March 1, 1986.

The Department of Human Services and the Bureau of Insurance shall cooperate with the Human Services Development Institute of the Center for Research and Advanced Study by providing access to records, rules, policies and data, except for those items which they are legally obligated to keep confidential.

The study shall be confined to fact-finding, data analysis and the presentation of policy alternatives to address those needs identified by the study. Based on the report, the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources shall make recommendations.

The purpose of the study shall be to compile and analyze relevant information in the following areas:

1. The extent to which citizens of the State lack adequate health insurance to cover the cost of medically necessary care;

2. The extent to which citizens lacking adequate insurance are without income and resources to pay for this care themselves;

3. The nature and extent of health problems among the uninsured and underinsured populations;

4. The extent to which the uninsured and underinsured are medically disadvantaged by their

lack of income, resources or adequate health insurance; and

5. Policy alternatives to address problems of inadequate access to health care as determined through this study.

The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources shall:

1. Conduct general oversight of the study;
2. Conduct a public hearing on the study;
3. Examine the findings of the study and testimony received at public hearing; and
4. Propose such legislation as they deem necessary and feasible as a result of this inquiry.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1985-86

HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Medical Care Administration

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| All Other | \$25,000 |
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Effective September 19, 1985.

## CHAPTER 65

S.P. 504 - L.D. 1364

### AN ACT Establishing a Commission to Study Family Matters in Court.

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

Whereas, the Judicial Department, pursuant to the final report of a study of the Probate Court system, is recommending the abolition of Probate Courts and the division of probate matters between the District Court and Superior Court; and