

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

AS PASSED BY THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

December 7, 1988 to July 1, 1989

Chapters 1 - 502

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR  
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 1989

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

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J.S. McCarthy Company  
Augusta, Maine  
1989

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

**AS PASSED AT THE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**of the**  
**ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**1989**

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**CHAPTER 378**

H.P. 1007 - L.D. 1405

**An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to  
Small Claims**

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

**Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §7484, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 667, §2, is amended to read:

**4. Removal.** There shall be no removal of a small claims action to Superior Court; ~~and~~

**Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §7484, sub-§4-A** is enacted to read:

**4-A. Judgment; entry; notice.** Upon completion of the hearing, the court shall promptly enter judgment for the prevailing party for the relief to which that party is entitled. The clerk shall provide to the parties a copy of the notice of judgment which shall require satisfaction of the judgment within 30 days. Upon the request of either party, the clerk shall schedule a disclosure hearing on a date certain, to be held if the judgment is not satisfied, and shall notify the judgment debtor that failure to appear at the scheduled disclosure hearing may result in the issue of summary process if requested by the judgment creditor; and

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 379**

H.P. 961 - L.D. 1339

**An Act to Require Municipalities to Leave  
the Names of Women Who Marry on Voting  
Registration Records**

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

**21-A MRSA §128, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

**3. Marriage; notice of inquiry.** If the registrar determines that a voter has married, the registrar shall not for that reason alone remove the voter's name from the voting list. The registrar may send a notice inquiring whether, as a result of marriage, that voter's name or address has been changed. Nothing in this subsection relieves a voter of the duty to give the registrar written notice of a change of name or address in accordance with section 129.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 380**

H.P. 948 - L.D. 1316

**An Act for the Preservation of  
Affordable Rental Housing in Maine**

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

**Whereas**, current law preserving rental housing for low-income households will expire on August 1, 1989; and

**Whereas**, 2,000 rental units will be at risk in 1990 and 18,000 units will be at risk over the next decade; and

**Whereas**, no new federally subsidized low-income rental units have been constructed since 1984 while, at the same time, the number of low-income households has increased significantly; and

**Whereas**, it is necessary to preserve as many of these low-income rental units as possible for low-income households; and

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

**30-A MRSA §4979**, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 48, §12, is repealed.

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

Effective June 20, 1989.

**CHAPTER 381**

H.P. 927 - L.D. 1293

**An Act to Amend the Municipal Limit for  
School Debt**

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

**Whereas**, the definition of the state reimbursable portion of school debt under the municipal debt limit law has not been updated to reflect the current provisions for state subsidy for school construction under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A; and

**Whereas**, this situation may preclude school construction projects in low valuation communities which are