MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

August 21, 1989 to August 22, 1989

and

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1990 to April 14, 1990

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
July 14, 1990

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

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1990

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE

January 3, 1990 to April 14, 1990

certification trademark obtained may be registered with the State in accordance with Title 10, chapter 301-A.

3. Quality grades and standards. Any product bearing a certification trademark obtained under this section shall meet the official grades and standards established ~~by the commissioner under~~ in accordance with section 443 for that commodity.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 671

H.P. 1490 - L.D. 2063

An Act to Require Telecommunications Services in Public Places for Hearing Impaired Persons

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

35-A MRSA §7505, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Relief. A violation of this section is unlawful public accommodations discrimination under Title 5, section 4592, and any person aggrieved may assert that person's rights pursuant to Title 5, chapter 337.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 672

H.P. 1593 - L.D. 2206

An Act to Encourage Farming in Maine

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

Whereas, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 135, authorizes a program of investing state funds in lending institutions at below market rates that are linked to loans of an equivalent amount to agricultural enterprises; and

Whereas, experience with the program has demonstrated that the program will not be able to continue to address the financial needs of agricultural enterprises unless changes are made to the program; and

Whereas, if these changes are not enacted as an emergency, agricultural enterprises may not be able to obtain loans at reduced interest rates under the program in time to prepare for the 1990 planting season; 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:

5 MRSA §135, 5th ¶, as amended by PL 1987, c. 806, §1, is further amended to read:

The Treasurer of State may deposit an amount not to exceed $4,000,000 in each calendar year with responsible financial institutions authorized to do business in the State at a rate of return not more than 2% per year below the rate of return otherwise obtainable had the funds been invested with such financial institutions for a similar term, as determined by the treasurer, for periods not to exceed one year, provided that each such financial institution covenants with the treasurer as a condition of the deposit to loan an amount at least equal to the amount so deposited with the financial institution by the treasurer under this paragraph to agricultural enterprises located within the State for agricultural purposes. All the loans ~~shall~~ must be at interest rates which are below the interest rates the loans would have borne under existing market conditions and loan standards of the financial institution but for the deposit by the treasurer under this paragraph, and the interest rates ~~shall~~ must fully reflect the savings to the financial institution due to the reduced interest rate paid on the deposit. Notwithstanding any provisions of this section to the contrary, the treasurer shall not be obligated to seek competitive bids for investments or deposits pursuant to this paragraph. The Finance Authority of Maine shall provide assistance to the treasurer in implementing this paragraph. For purposes of this section, "agricultural enterprises" means a business involving cultivating soil, producing crops and raising livestock or their by-products. In adopting rules to implement this paragraph, the treasurer shall consider criteria targeting loans under the program to geographic areas of financial need, and borrowers who are new entrants to agriculture, and may establish limits on deposits to any one financial institution and limits on deposits supporting loans to any one borrower.

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

Effective March 14, 1990.

CHAPTER 673

S.P. 802 - L.D. 2050

An Act Authorizing Further Assessments for Public Advocate Participation in Workers' Compensation Insurance Rate Proceedings

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