

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

January 5, 1994 to April 14, 1994

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 14, 1994

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
1993

2. Effect. If the department has issued a certificate of lien in accordance with the requirements of this section, no person having notice of the lien or in possession of any property that may be subject to the lien may pay over, release, sell, transfer, encumber or convey such property, unless:

A. An authorized representative of the commissioner executes a release or waiver and delivers it to the person in possession; or

B. A court of competent jurisdiction orders the department to release the lien.

3. Hearing. An obligor may request a hearing to contest the issuance of a certificate of lien. A request for hearing must be received by the department within 30 days of the date of mailing of the obligor's copy of the certificate of lien. The department shall notify the obligor in writing of the right to hearing at the time of mailing of the obligor's copy of the certificate of lien. At hearing the obligor may contest the accuracy of the certificate of lien and whether the lien was implemented in accordance with the requirements of this section. The department shall conduct the hearing in accordance with the requirements of Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter IV.

4. Decision after hearing. The department shall render a decision after hearing without undue delay as to the accuracy of the terms of the certificate of lien and whether the lien was issued in accordance with the requirements of this section. The decision must be based on the hearing record and rules adopted by the commissioner. A copy of the decision must be sent to the obligor at the obligor's most recent address of record. The decision must inform the obligor that the obligor may file a petition for judicial review of the decision within 30 days of the date of the decision.

§3823. Foreclosure on liens

The commissioner shall proceed as follows with respect to foreclosures on liens filed pursuant to section 3822.

1. Liens on real property. Actions to foreclose liens on real property issued under section 3822 may be brought in the county where the property is located pursuant to the procedures of Title 14, chapter 403, subchapter II.

2. Liens on personal property. Actions to foreclose liens on personal property issued under section 3822 may be brought in the county where the obligor resides or the county where the property is located pursuant to the procedures of Title 14, chapter 509, subchapter III.

§3824. Credit reporting

The department may submit the names of obligors and the amounts of overpayments not recouped, repaid or otherwise recovered to a consumer credit reporting agency. The department may submit the name of an obligor and the amount owed only if the amount owed was established by judicial or administrative action, by agreement of the obligor and the department or by operation of law.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 655

S.P. 555 - L.D. 1591

An Act to Clarify the Maine Banking Code as it Pertains to Service Corporations Serving Credit Unions

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

Sec. 1. 9-B MRSA §864, sub-§2, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 99, §2, is amended to read:

B. The service corporation primarily serves credit unions and the membership of affiliated credit unions. A service corporation formed after July 31, 1994 primarily serves credit unions and the membership of affiliated credit unions within the meaning of this paragraph if at least 75% of the services provided within this State are to credit unions and members of credit unions.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 656

H.P. 1223 - L.D. 1642

An Act to Establish a Financial Assistance Program for Utilities Burdened as a Result of State Highway Construction

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §256, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 860, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§256. Financial assistance program for utilities

In order to assist water utilities and combination water and sewer utilities that have annual revenues of

\$15,000,000 or less in the relief of extreme financial hardship caused by the relocation of utility facilities that are part of bridge and highway projects, the Department of Transportation shall loan to those utilities, interest free, 90% of the utility relocation cost, excluding the cost of upgrades, when the cost of the utility relocation is 5% or more of the utility's prior fiscal year revenues. The term of the loans may not exceed 20 years. The maximum amount of all outstanding loans to eligible utilities may not exceed \$3,000,000. In any fiscal year, the amount loaned for the purposes of this section may not exceed the amount allocated by the Legislature in that fiscal year plus the unencumbered balance from previous years.

Sec. 2. Small Utility Loan Program reserve account. The State Controller shall establish a Highway Fund balance sheet notes receivable and reserve account to record outstanding utility loans.

Sec. 3. Balance carried forward. Any balance in the Small Utility Loan Program reserve account in excess of that required for the purposes of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 256 does not lapse but is carried forward.

Sec. 4. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from the Highway Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1994-95

**TRANSPORTATION,
DEPARTMENT OF**

**Highway and Bridge
Improvement**

All Other	(\$250,000)
Provides for the deallocation of funds no longer required to offset an allocation to the Small Utility Loan Program.	

Small Utility Loan Program

All Other	\$250,000
Provides funds to establish a financial assistance program for certain water and sewer utilities for the relocation of utilities as a result of state highway construction.	

**DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
TOTAL**

_____ \$0

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 657

H.P. 1191 - L.D. 1588

**An Act to Provide for Greater
Efficiency within the Department of
Agriculture, Food and
Rural Resources**

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§1-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 779, §11, is amended to read:

1-A. Abandoned dog. "Abandoned dog" means a dog that has been deserted ~~or given up~~ by its owner ~~or keeper~~. ~~"Abandoned dog" includes litters left in a public place and dogs left with a note indicating abandonment. "Abandoned dog" does not include a dog wearing a collar and tags or a dog at large, as defined in subsection 6.~~

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§5, as amended by PL 1991, c. 779, §12, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§5-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 779, §13, is amended to read:

5-A. Animal shelter. "Animal shelter" means a facility that includes a physical structure or part of a physical structure that provides temporary or permanent shelter to stray, abandoned, abused or owner-surrendered animals. ~~"Animal shelter" includes animal control shelters as defined in subsection 5.~~

Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§15-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 779, §15, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§19, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 383, §3, is amended to read:

19. Municipality. "Municipality" means ~~a~~ an organized city, town or plantation.

Sec. 6. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§21, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 383, §3, is amended to read:

21. Owner. "Owner" means ~~any a person, firm, partnership, association or corporation~~ owning, keeping or harboring a dog or other animal.

Sec. 7. 7 MRSA §3907, sub-§22-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 779, §15, is amended to read: