

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**  
**ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**  
**September 5, 1996 to September 7, 1996**

**ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 4, 1996 to March 27, 1997**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**March 27, 1997 to June 20, 1997**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 26, 1997**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 19, 1997**

**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**  
**1997**

C. Two hundred dollars per net or trap for the use of a 4th and 5th elver fyke net or Sheldon eel trap.

**Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §6505-B, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 536, Pt. A, §8, is amended to read:

**3. Dip net fee.** It is unlawful for a person to utilize a dip net to fish for or take elvers without paying a fee of ~~\$75~~ \$50 per dip net annually.

This subsection does not apply to a dip net a person utilizes pursuant to section 6505-A, subsection 5.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 298

S.P. 524 - L.D. 1629

### An Act to Include Possession of a Dangerous Weapon as Grounds for Expulsion of a Student

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§9, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 157, §1, is amended to read:

C. Who possesses on school property a firearm as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 12-A or a dangerous weapon as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 9 without permission of a school official;

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 299

S.P. 354 - L.D. 1173

### An Act to Preserve Public Access to Governmental Information through Libraries Regardless of Format or Medium

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

Whereas, public access to public records is immediately threatened by changes in the way the information is prepared and distributed; 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:**

**Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §501-A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1987, c. 402, Pt. A, §2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

#### §501-A. Publications of state agencies

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, the term "publications" includes periodicals; newsletters; bulletins; pamphlets; leaflets; directories; bibliographies; statistical reports; brochures; plan drafts; planning documents; reports; special reports; committee and commission minutes; informational handouts; and rules and compilations of rules, regardless of number of pages, number of copies ordered, physical size, publication medium or intended audience inside or outside the agency.

**2. Production and distribution.** The publications of all agencies, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy may be printed, bound and distributed, subject to Title 5, sections 43 to 46. The State Purchasing Agent may determine the style in which publications may be printed and bound, with the approval of the Governor.

**3. Annual or biennial reports.** Immediately upon receipt of any annual or biennial report that is not included in the Maine State Government Annual Report provided for in Title 5, sections 43 to 46, the State Purchasing Agent shall deliver at least 55 copies of that annual or biennial report to the State Librarian for exchange and library use. The State Purchasing Agent shall deliver the balance of the number of each such report to the agency that prepared the report.

**4. State agency and legislative committee publications.** Except as provided in subsection 5, any agency or legislative committee issuing publications, including publications in an electronic format, shall deliver 18 copies of the publications in the published format to the State Librarian. These copies must be furnished at the expense of the issuing agency. Publications not furnished upon request will be reproduced at the expense of the issuing agency. The agency or committee preparing a publication may determine the date on which a publication may be released, except as otherwise provided by law.

**5. Electronic publishing.** An agency or committee that electronically publishes information to the public is only required to provide the State Librarian with one printed copy of an electronically published publication. An electronically published publication is not required to be provided to the State