

# 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

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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 1997

provided in section 4011 and Title 15, section 393, subsection 1, paragraph D, if applicable.

See title page for effective date.

#### CHAPTER 335

#### H.P. 757 - L.D. 1034

#### An Act to Provide Information to the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §685-B, sub-§6-B is enacted to read:

6-B. Notification of land division required. When any land division occurs by platting, sale, lease or other conveyance, regardless of whether a subdivision is created, a plan showing the division of the original parcel must be filed within 60 days of the division, by the person creating the division, with the commission.

See title page for effective date.

#### CHAPTER 336

#### S.P. 557 - L.D. 1683

#### An Act to Clarify Issuance of the Writ of Possession

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

Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §6005, first ¶, as amended by PL 1995, c. 208, §2, is further amended to read:

When the defendant is defaulted or fails to show sufficient cause, judgment must be rendered against the defendant by the District Court for possession of the premises and a writ of possession be issued to remove the defendant, which may be served by a constable. Seven calendar days after the judgment is entered, the court shall issue the writ of possession to remove the defendant. The writ may be served by a sheriff or a constable. A writ of possession may not issue in any case in which the ground for termination of the tenancy was rent arrearage and the defendant paid the amount necessary to reinstate the tenancy as provided by section 6002.

Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §6008, sub-§§1 and 2, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 448, §2, are amended to read: 1. Right to appeal. Either party may appeal on questions of law from a judgment to the Superior Court as in other civil actions. Either party may appeal on any issue triable by right by a jury to a trial de novo in the Superior Court as provided in this section. The time for filing an appeal of the judgment of the District Court expires upon the issuance of the writ of possession pursuant to section 6005 or 30 days from the time the judgment is entered, whichever occurs first.

2. Appeal by defendant; record; stay. When the defendant appeals, the <u>defendant shall pay to the</u> plaintiff or, if there is a dispute about the rent, to the District Court, any unpaid portion of the current month's rent or the rent arrearage, whichever is less. The District Court shall promptly transmit the record and any such payments to the Superior Court without waiting for the preparation of a transcript of recorded testimony. The Superior Court may stay the issuance of a writ of possession pending disposition of the appeal.

A. The Superior Court shall condition the granting and continuation of the stay on the defendant's payment of the current rent for the premises as required by this subsection at the time of appeal and on payment of any rent that has accrued since the filing of the appeal to the plaintiff or, if there is a dispute about the rent, into an escrow account to be administered by the clerk of the Superior Court. Upon application of either party, the Superior Court may authorize payments from the escrow account for appropriate expenses related to the premises. The appeal decision or an agreement of the parties must provide for the disposition of the escrowed rent.

B. The Superior Court may condition the granting and continuation of the stay, in appropriate cases, on the defendant's agreement to refrain from causing any nuisance or damage.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 337**

#### S.P. 529 - L.D. 1634

#### An Act to Provide Information to Consumers of Health Care

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1831 is enacted to read:

§1831. Patient referrals