

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 7, 1998 to March 31, 1998**

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**  
**April 1, 1998 to April 9, 1998**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 30, 1998**

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JULY 9, 1998**

**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**

diploma to a student who successfully completes a course under this chapter.

**2. Postsecondary credit.** The eligible institution shall grant full credit to any student who successfully completes a course at the eligible institution under this chapter. The course must apply to graduation requirements at the eligible institution in which it was taken or be transferable to another eligible institution on an equal basis with a course taken by any other student at the eligible institution.

**§4775. Payment; appropriations**

The department shall pay 50% of the in-state tuition for the first 3 credit hours taken each semester by a student at an eligible institution and up to 6 credit hours per academic year. The eligible institution may not make any additional tuition charges for the course but may impose fees and charges, other than tuition, that are ordinarily imposed on students not covered by this chapter. Funds appropriated to the department to carry out the purposes of this chapter must be in addition to the customary and ongoing amounts appropriated for general purpose aid for local schools.

**Sec. 3. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

**1998-99**

**EDUCATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF**

**Support Systems**

All Other	\$75,000
Provides funds to the Department of Education to enable 250 secondary school students per semester to take postsecondary courses at eligible institutions.	

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 759**

**H.P. 1465 - L.D. 2056**

**An Act Concerning the Maine State Housing Authority's Share of the Transfer Tax**

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

**Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4641-B, last ¶,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 24, Pt. C, §7, is further amended to read:

The State Tax Assessor shall pay all net receipts to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit  $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{1}{2}$  of the revenue to the General Fund and who shall monthly pay the remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{2}$  to the Maine State Housing Authority, which shall deposit the funds in the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund created in Title 30-A, section 4853.

**Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect on July 1, 1999.

Effective July 1, 1999.

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**CHAPTER 760**

**H.P. 1450 - L.D. 2041**

**An Act to Correct and Supplement Funding for the Maine School of Science and Mathematics**

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §8205, sub-§16,** as repealed and replaced by PL 1995, c. 625, Pt. A, §22, is amended to read:

**16. Report.** To report ~~biennially~~ annually to the Governor ~~and~~ the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs on the results of the assessment in subsection 15 ~~by the board of trustees~~ and the general status of the school and to provide ~~annually to the Governor and the Legislature~~ a financial audit of the school conducted by an independent auditor;

**Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §8205, sub-§16-A** is enacted to read:

**16-A. Quarterly financial statements.** To submit quarterly financial statements to the Governor, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs;

**Sec. 3. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1998-99

**EDUCATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF**

**Magnet Schools**

All Other \$150,000

Provides funding for the Maine School of Science and Mathematics on a one-time basis to pay outstanding bills.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 761**

**S.P. 837 - L.D. 2243**

**An Act to Encourage Accountability and Return on Investment for Maine Taxpayers from Economic Development Initiatives**

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§6-E** is enacted to read:

<u>6-E.</u>	<u>Economic</u>	<u>Legislative</u>	<u>5 MRSA</u>
<u>Economic</u>	<u>Development</u>	<u>per diem</u>	<u>§13070-L</u>
<u>Develop-</u>	<u>Incentive</u>	<u>and</u>	
<u>ment</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>expenses</u>	
		<u>Legislators</u>	
		<u>only</u>	

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA c. 383, sub-c. II, art. 6** is enacted to read:

**Article 6**

**Return on Public Investment From Economic Development Incentives**

**§13070-J. Employer reporting associated with eligibility for public subsidies and incentives**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Commission" means the Economic Development Incentive Commission established in section 12004-I, subsection 6-E.

B. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development.

C. "Department" means the Department of Economic and Community Development.

D. "Economic development incentive" means:

(1) Assistance from Maine Quality Centers under Title 20-A, chapter 431-A;

(2) The Governor's Training Initiative Program under Title 26, chapter 25, subchapter IV;

(3) Municipal tax increment financing under Title 30-A, chapter 207;

(4) The jobs and investment tax credit under Title 36, section 5215;

(5) The research expense tax credit under Title 36, section 5219-K;

(6) Reimbursement for taxes paid on certain business property under Title 36, chapter 915; or

(7) Employment tax increment financing under Title 36, chapter 917.

**2. Disclosure.** Each applicant for an economic development incentive described in subsection 1, paragraph D, subparagraphs (1) to (4) and (7) shall at a minimum identify in writing:

A. The public purpose that will be served by the employer through use of the economic development incentive and the specific uses to which the benefits will be put; and

B. The goals of the employer for the number, type and wage levels of jobs to be created or retained as a result of the economic development incentive received.

Applications filed under this subsection are public records for purposes of Title 1, chapter 13.

**3. Report.** Annually, an employer receiving an economic development incentive, the value of which exceeds \$10,000 in one year, shall submit a written report to the commissioner containing but not limited to the following information:

A. The amount of assistance received by the employer in the preceding year from each economic development incentive and the uses to which that assistance has been put;

B. The total amount of assistance received from all economic assistance programs;

C. The number, type and wage level of jobs created or retained as a result of an economic development incentive;