

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.

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1997

representation, representing the diverse range of interests in public education in this State and identifying individuals with the willingness and ability to make the necessary commitment to the committee; and be it further

Sec. 2. Duties. Resolved: That the committee of the State Board of Education established in section 1 shall:

1. Review and make recommendations regarding the report presented by the Commissioner of Education to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs related to the current methods used to calculate the income and cost-of-living adjustment factors. The State Board of Education shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 1, 1998; and

2. Review the essential programs and services plan presented by the State Board of Education, pursuant to Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Part X, section 1, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs for the purpose of developing an adequate and equitable method to fund essential programs and services. The state board committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 15, 1999. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out a bill based on the state board recommendations; and be it further

Sec. 3. Staffing and research assistance. Resolved: That, if necessary, the State Board of Education may request staffing assistance from the Department of Education and research assistance from the Education Research Institute Steering Committee.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 62

S.P. 498 - L.D. 1560

Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Study Charter Schools and School Choice

Sec. 1. Charter schools and school choice study. Resolved: That the State Board of Education shall establish a committee to study charter schools and school choice initiatives developed in other states and jurisdictions. The committee shall meet at least 4 times to review the national data available, examine the charter schools and school choice legislation submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, and receive testimony from relevant sources regarding charter schools and school choice initiatives in other

states and jurisdictions. If necessary, the board may request research assistance from the Education Research Institute Steering Committee. The board shall submit its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the Legislature no later than January 1, 1998.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 63

H.P. 286 - L.D. 350

Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study the Feasibility of a Single Claims Processing System for 3rd-party Payors of Health Care Benefits

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

Whereas, in current practice, 3rd-party payors of health care benefits use multiple claims processing systems; and

Whereas, other jurisdictions have begun exploring the feasibility of implementing a single claims processing system for all 3rd-party payors and are also exploring ways to streamline claims processing; and

Whereas, it is necessary to begin the study of the feasibility of a single claims processing system or a more streamlined system for 3rd-party payors of health care benefits in this State; and

Whereas, the members of the task force established by this resolve must be appointed prior to the expiration of the 90-day period; 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

Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved: That the Task Force to Study the Feasibility of a Single Claims Processing System for 3rd-party Payors of Health Care Benefits, referred to in this resolve as the "task force," is established to study the feasibility of a streamlined claims processing system for 3rd-party payors of health care benefits and to study the feasibility of a single claims processing system for 3rd-party payors of health care benefits; and be it further