

# 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**

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**SELECTED MEMORIALS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION  
ACKNOWLEDGING WOMEN IN  
MILITARY SERVICE**

**H.P. 817**

**WHEREAS**, American women have fought for liberty throughout the history of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, women have been involved in every one of our Nation's armed conflicts, from the American Revolution to our present peace-keeping mission in Bosnia, and their commitment and sacrifices have contributed greatly to America's military successes; and

**WHEREAS**, there are more than 400,000 women on active duty in every branch of the Armed Services of the United States and there are an estimated 1,200,000 living veterans who are women; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress has authorized a Women in Military Service for America Memorial to be built at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery and a Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation has been organized and given the challenge to see that this memorial becomes a reality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation is sponsoring a nationwide grassroots campaign to identify and register women who have served or are presently serving in the military forces of this country; and

**WHEREAS**, women in military service, including many women from the State of Maine, have served in our Nation's conflicts with honor and dedication, even to the point of risking their lives alongside their male counterparts and demonstrating tremendous bravery and devotion to their Nation and to the cause of freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting to acknowledge and pay tribute to every woman who has served or is serving our Nation in the military by setting aside a special time of recognition; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, pause to honor and give recognition to the Women in Military Service, past and present, who have served Maine and the Nation so unselfishly and with such honor; and be it further

**RESOLVED**: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation with our gratitude.

**Read and adopted by the House of  
Representatives and the Senate February 18,  
1997**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING PEACE EFFORTS  
IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

**H.P. 1066**

**WHEREAS**, the celebration of St. Patrick's Day reminds us of the ongoing quest for peace in Northern Ireland; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Maine and the people of Ireland have been deeply touched by the decades of violence in Northern Ireland; and

**WHEREAS**, former United States Senator George Mitchell of Maine has played a key role in the ongoing peace negotiations to help establish economic stability; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**: That We, the members of the 118th Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, extend our heartfelt support and encouragement for efforts to bring about a lasting peace in Northern Ireland; and be it further

**RESOLVED**: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to His Excellency, Dermot A. Gallagher, Ambassador of Ireland and the Honorable George J. Mitchell.

**Read and adopted by the House of  
Representatives and the Senate March 13,  
1997**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION IN HONOR  
OF THE MAINE FARMER AND  
MAINE AGRICULTURE**

**H.P. 1139**

**WHEREAS**, farmers make up one-fifth of our national work force, producing food and fiber for local, national and world markets, and accounting for 19% of the gross national product; and

SELECTED MEMORIALS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

**WHEREAS,** Maine farmers provide \$500,000,000 in total farm income and are credited with a contribution of \$1,300,000,000 to Maine's economy; and

**WHEREAS,** Maine farms provide not only food for families but scenic views, open spaces, employment opportunities and a tangible link to our culture and heritage; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature of the State of Maine, now assembled in the First Regular Session, pause in our deliberations to honor Maine farmers and innovators who have contributed so much to the betterment of our State and to pledge our support and encouragement, and urge the youth of Maine to pursue the growing opportunities for careers in today's technologically advanced agricultural industry; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources in token of the esteem in which those in this vital field are held.

**Read and adopted by the House of Representatives March 20, 1997 and the Senate March 21, 1997**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION  
COMMEMORATING YOM  
HASHOAH, THE DAY OF  
REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE  
WHO SUFFERED AS VICTIMS OF  
THE HOLOCAUST**

**S.P. 575**

**WHEREAS,** 55 years ago, 6,000,000 Jews were murdered in the Nazi Holocaust as part of a systematic program of genocide and millions of other people suffered as victims of Nazism; and

**WHEREAS,** the people of the State of Maine should always remember the atrocities committed by the Nazis so that such horrors are never repeated; and

**WHEREAS,** the people of the State of Maine should always remember those who liberated the Nazi concentration camps, some at the cost of their lives and others with lifelong emotional suffering, as holding an honored place in our history; and

**WHEREAS,** the people of the State of Maine should continually rededicate themselves to the principle of equal justice for all people, remain eternally vigilant against all tyranny and recognize

that bigotry provides a breeding ground for tyranny to flourish; and

**WHEREAS,** May 4, 1997 has been designated internationally as a Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Nazi Holocaust, known as Yom HaShoah; and

**WHEREAS,** the national community pursuant to an Act of Congress will be commemorating the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Nazi Holocaust; and

**WHEREAS,** it is appropriate for the people of the State of Maine to join in this international commemoration; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That, We, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature, now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, pause in solemn memory of the victims of the Nazi Holocaust, and urge one and all to recommit themselves to the lessons of the Nazi Holocaust through this international week of commemoration and express our common desire to continually strive to overcome prejudice and inhumanity through education, vigilance and resistance; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

**Read and adopted by the Senate April 1, 1997 and the House of Representatives April 2, 1997**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION  
MEMORIALIZING THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF  
DEPARTMENTS OF STATE  
GOVERNMENT TO VISIT EACH  
COUNTY IN THE STATE AT  
LEAST ONCE EACH YEAR**

**H.P. 1231**

**WE,** your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature of the State of Maine, now assembled in the First Special Session, most respectfully present and petition the commissioners of the departments of State Government as follows:

**WHEREAS,** the commissioners of the departments of State Government have responsibility for adopting and implementing policies affecting all citizens of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, commissioners are responsible for adopting rules relating to numerous programs that govern the daily activities of public and private institutions, business and individual citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, commissioners adopting rules and policies should have an intimate knowledge of all areas of the State, including the issues and problems affecting those areas and the local people who are involved in addressing those issues and policies; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to visit an area in order to truly understand its problems and know its people; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the commissioners of the departments of State Government should visit each county in the State at least once each year to visit with local officials and members of the public and gather information about local issues and concerns; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this Memorial, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of Maine and each commissioner of a department of State Government.

**Read and adopted by the House of Representatives April 7, 1997 and the Senate April 8, 1997**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION  
MEMORIALIZING THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
STATES AND THE CONGRESS OF  
THE UNITED STATES TO  
PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR  
CRITICAL HIGHWAY  
IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH  
NORTHERN MAINE FROM  
HOULTON TO FORT KENT**

**S.P. 601**

**WE**, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Special Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States and the Congress, as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Interstate 95 ends at Houlton, Maine, 99 miles from the end of U.S. Route 1 in Fort Kent, Maine, which parallels the international border in northern Maine between the United States and Canada; and

**WHEREAS**, the structural and functional condition of the U.S. Route 1 corridor from Houlton to Fort Kent is such that substantial upgrades or recon-

struction of the Route 1 corridor or alternative routes is necessary for the economic growth and vitality of northern Maine; and

**WHEREAS**, northern Maine is critical as an economic connector to Canada and the Atlantic Rim; and

**WHEREAS**, various alternative improvements for the U.S. Route 1 corridor have been studied and it has been concluded that these improvements would not only enhance mobility and accessibility, but would spur the economic development of northern Maine; and

**WHEREAS**, the improvements would provide the type of high quality north-south transportation envisioned by the "20-Year Statewide Transportation Plan" called for by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991; and

**WHEREAS**, federal, state, local and private support and innovative financing are critical to fund any of several proposed alternative improvements and financing of those improvements would range from \$290,000,000 to \$476,000,000, the least costly alternative being nearly 6 times the Maine Department of Transportation's biennial budget of Interstate and National Highway System funds; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, your Memorialists, request the United States Congress and the President of the United States to provide essential financial assistance to address the need for substantial highway improvements in this economically depressed, yet strategically located, section of the United States; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States and each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

**Read and adopted by the Senate April 10, 1997 and the House of Representatives April 14, 1997**

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