# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### **LAWS**

#### **OF THE**

## **STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

#### ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 2, 1998 to June 19, 1999

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 18, 1999

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 1999

filed under this section within 9 months of the date of the filing. The commission may dismiss without hearing any complaint that it concludes is clearly intended to harass or delay, is frivolous or is clearly without merit.

A complaint filed under this section must specify, to the extent possible, the nature and extent of the alleged <u>undue</u> competitive advantage and the basis for the belief that a <u>an undue</u> competitive advantage exists. The utility shall respond to the complaint within 10 days of receiving notice from the commission of the complaint. Within 10 days of receiving the utility's response, the commission shall determine whether the complaint is clearly intended to harass or delay, is frivolous or is clearly without merit.

For the purposes of this section, the term "affiliated interest" has the same meaning as in section 707, subsection 1, paragraph A. For the purposes of this section, "undue competitive advantage" means an advantage gained by a violation of the requirements established by the commission by rule pursuant to section 715.

**Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §715,** as enacted by PL 1997, c. 237, §2, is amended to read:

#### §715. Rulemaking

The commission shall adopt rules that prescribe the allocation of costs for facilities, services or intangibles that are shared between regulated and unregulated activities of a utility or an affiliated interest as defined in section 707, subsection 1, paragraph A. Rules adopted by the commission may not establish a presumption with regard to the value of good will used by an affiliated interest in those cases where the business venture of the affiliated interest is regulated by the commission. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

Sec. 3. Major substantive rule revision. The Public Utilities Commission shall amend its major substantive rule, Chapter 820: Requirements for Noncore Utility Activities and Transactions Between Affiliates, to conform to that section of this Act that amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 715. The Public Utilities Commission is not required to hold hearings or conduct other formal proceedings prior to amending its rule to conform to that section of this Act that amends Title 35-A, section 715. Notwithstanding Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A, amending the rule to conform to that section of this Act that amends Title 35-A, section 715 does not require further legislative approval.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 159**

S.P. 127 - L.D. 324

An Act to Allow Assistants to Physicians to Perform Certain Tasks outside the Direct Supervision of the Physicians

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

**Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §3270-A, first ¶,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §205, is further amended to read:

Nothing contained in this This chapter may not be construed to prohibit an individual from rendering medical services, if these services are rendered under the supervision and control of a physician or surgeon. and if that individual has satisfactorily completed a training program approved by the Board of Licensure in Medicine and a competency examination determined by this board. Supervision and control may not be construed as requiring the personal presence of the supervising and controlling physician at the place where these services are rendered, unless a physical presence is necessary to provide patient care of the same quality as provided by the physician. Nothing in this This chapter may not be construed as prohibiting a physician or surgeon from delegating to the physician's or surgeon's employees certain activities relating to medical care and treatment carried out by custom and usage when the activities are under the direct control of and in the personal presence of the physician or surgeon who must be present on the premises at the time the activities are performed. The physician delegating these activities to employees, to program graduates or to participants in an approved training program is legally liable for the activities of those individuals, and any individual in this relationship is considered the physician's agent. Nothing contained in this This section may not be construed to apply to registered nurses acting pursuant to chapter 31.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 160**

H.P. 258 - L.D. 362

An Act to Require Written
Explanation from the Department of
Transportation When a Municipal
Request to Change a Speed Limit is
Denied

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