

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

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IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1999

CHAPTER 303

H.P. 1299 - L.D. 1860

**An Act Allowing the Appointment of
Temporary Guardians of Minors**

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

Sec. 1. 18-A MRSA §5-207, sub-§(c), as enacted by PL 1979, c. 540, §1, is amended to read:

(c) If necessary, the court may appoint a temporary guardian, with the status of an ordinary guardian of a minor, but the authority of a temporary guardian shall may not last longer than ~~six~~ 6 months.

Notice of hearing on the petition for the appointment of a temporary guardian must be served as provided under subsection (a), except that the notice must be given at least 5 days before the hearing, and notice need not be given to any person whose address and present whereabouts are unknown and cannot be ascertained by due diligence. Upon a showing of good cause, the court may waive service of the notice of hearing on any person, other than the minor, if the minor is at least 14 years of age.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 304

H.P. 1284 - L.D. 1845

**An Act to Limit the Imposition of
Excise Taxes on Watercraft**

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1504, sub-§3, ¶D, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 632, Pt. A, §8, is amended to read:

D. Beginning April 1, 1984, upon payment of the excise tax, the municipality shall certify on forms provided by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife that the excise tax has been paid. The municipality may withhold certification that the excise tax has been paid until all outstanding taxes due under this chapter for the current year have been paid.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 305

H.P. 1038 - L.D. 1460

**An Act to Allow Sharing of
Information for Child Protective
Investigations**

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

Sec. 1. 16 MRSA §614, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 433, §2, is amended to read:

2. Exception to this limitation. Nothing in this section ~~shall preclude~~ precludes dissemination of intelligence and investigative information to another criminal justice agency or, for use in the investigation of suspected abuse or neglect, to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Child and Family Services. Intelligence and investigative information may also be disseminated to an accused person or ~~his~~ that person's attorney, if authorized by:

- A. The District Attorney for the district in which that accused person is to be tried;
- B. A rule or ruling of a court of this State or of the United States; or
- C. The Attorney General.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 306

S.P. 536 - L.D. 1598

**An Act Regarding Hospital
Cooperation**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1887, as amended by PL 1995, c. 232, §6, is further amended to read:

§1887. Assessment

Except for state-operated mental health hospitals, all hospitals licensed by the department are subject to an annual assessment under this chapter. The department shall collect the assessment. The amount of the assessment must be based upon each hospital's gross patient service revenue. For any fiscal year, the aggregate amount raised by the assessment ~~must be equal to the amount allocated by law to carry out the purposes of this chapter in that fiscal year~~ may not exceed \$200,000. The allocation for the fiscal years 1995-96 and 1996-97 is limited to no more than