

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 5, 2000 to May 12, 2000**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**AUGUST 11, 2000**

**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**  
**2000**

Session of the 119th Legislature or August 1, 2000, whichever is later.

See title page for effective date, unless otherwise indicated.

**CHAPTER 606**

**H.P. 1619 - L.D. 2266**

**An Act to Provide Equity Between Private and Public Electrical Training Programs**

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

**Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1101, sub-§4-A**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 325, §5, is further amended to read:

**4-A. Supervision.** One apprentice electrician or one helper electrician may work with and under the supervision of each master electrician, limited electrician or journeyman electrician. A master electrician who teaches an electrical course at a Maine applied technology center, a Maine applied technology region or a Maine technical college or an apprenticeship program registered by the Department of Labor may have a maximum of 12 helper or apprentice electricians under direct supervision while making electrical installations that are a part of the instructional program of the school or apprenticeship program, as long as the total value of each installation does not exceed ~~\$2,500~~ \$5,000. An electrical installation may not be commenced pursuant to this subsection without the prior approval of the director or president of the school or apprenticeship program at which the master electrician is an instructor. These installations are limited to those done in buildings or facilities owned or controlled by:

- A. School administrative units;
- B. Nonprofit organizations; and
- C. Households as defined in Title 36, sections 6206 and 6207.

The Electricians' Examining Board and the municipal electrical inspector of the municipality in which the installation is to be made, if the municipality has an inspector, must be notified of all installation projects entered into pursuant to this subsection prior to the commencement of the project. There must be an inspection by a state electrical inspector or by the municipal electrical inspector of the municipality in which the installation has been made, if the municipi-

pality has an inspector, before any wiring on the project is concealed.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 607**

**S.P. 907 - L.D. 2359**

**An Act to Clarify the Authority of the State Board of Optometry**

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

**Whereas**, the State Board of Optometry has always budgeted for and paid for independent staffing at its offices; and

**Whereas**, the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation has recently advised the board that it can not have outside staffing; and

**Whereas**, the board has a budget that has been approved that funds the independent staff positions; and

**Whereas**, in order to continue the board's practice of using independent staff, this legislation must be approved immediately; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §2416**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §145, is further amended by inserting at the end a new paragraph to read:

The board may employ clerical personnel, define their duties and fix their compensation, subject to the Civil Service Law.

**Sec. 2. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from Other Special Revenue funds to carry out the purposes of this Act.

<b>1999-00</b>	<b>2000-01</b>
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**PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

**State Board of Optometry**

Positions - Legislative Count	(1,000)	(1,000)
Personal Services	\$3,619	\$21,528
All Other	(4,625)	(18,500)

Provides for the allocation of funds for a Clerk III position and the deallocation of All Other funds due to a reduced need for contracted services for support services.

TOTAL	(\$1,006)	\$3,028
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**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

Effective March 31, 2000.

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**CHAPTER 608**

**S.P. 869 - L.D. 2279**

**An Act to Amend the Charter of the  
Maine Science and Technology  
Foundation**

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13121, sub-§2-A** is enacted to read:

**2-A. Clearinghouse.** "Clearinghouse" means an interactive web-based clearinghouse of science and technology information to assist persons seeking to conduct research and development and to develop high-technology businesses in the State. "Clearinghouse" may include, but is not limited to, the following: a complete inventory of existing high-technology resources, including a roster of high-technology businesses in the State; sources of federal and private financial support for research and development and assistance in grant writing; information on developing technology business plans, accessing capital, obtaining legal and other professional assistance and managing business growth and marketing; the science and technology report card; and information on the availability of a skilled workforce.

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §13121, sub-§§7 and 8,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §9, are repealed.

**Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §13122-B,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §11, is amended to read:

**§13122-B. Purpose**

The foundation shall encourage, promote, stimulate, evaluate and support: research and development of relevance to the State; technology transfer activities that increase the competitiveness of businesses and public institutions of higher education in the State; effective and efficient application of technologies in the public and private sectors; scientific and technological education and training; the development of new commercial products and the fabrication of such products in the State; and cooperative efforts among government, the private sector and universities and colleges for the purposes outlined in this chapter.

**Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §13122-D,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §11, is amended to read:

**§13122-D. Terms**

Directors of the board are appointed for ~~6-year~~ 3-year terms. ~~The initial appointments must be staggered as follows: one third of the directors must be appointed for 2 year terms; one third for 4 year terms; and 1/3 for 6 year terms.~~ Board members may serve no more than 2 full consecutive terms. Public sector directors must serve terms coincident with the terms of their public sector appointments.

**Sec. 5. 5 MRSA §13123-A, sub-§7,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §13, is repealed.

**Sec. 6. 5 MRSA §13123-A, sub-§7-A** is enacted to read:

**7-A. Clearinghouse.** Manage, maintain and update the clearinghouse and protect the clearinghouse and its contents from infringement by utilizing copyright, trademark and other legal means available to protect products of intellectual property.

**Sec. 7. 5 MRSA §13123-A, sub-§12,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §13, is repealed.

**Sec. 8. 5 MRSA §13124-B, first ¶,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §16, is amended to read:

The foundation ~~is,~~ the University of Maine System and the EPSCoR steering committee are jointly responsible for the administration of the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, referred to in this chapter as the "Maine EPSCoR Program," which is a partnership effort between the State Government and the Federal Government to strengthen the State's science and engineering infrastructure.

**Sec. 9. 5 MRSA §13124-B, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 1993, c. 410, Pt. E, §16, is amended to read: