

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

Sec. 4. Assessment of taxes. The State Tax Assessor shall assess the real and personal property taxes in the Town of Madrid as of April 1, 2000 as provided in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 115.

Sec. 5. Referendum; certificate to Secretary of State. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 7209, this Act takes effect when approved only for the purpose of permitting its submission by the municipal officers to the legal voters of the Town of Madrid by ballot at the next general election to be held in November. This election must be called, advertised and conducted according to Title 30-A, sections 2528 and 2532. The town clerk shall prepare the required ballots on which the clerk shall reduce the subject matter of this Act to the following question:

"Do you favor the deorganization of the Town of Madrid?"

The voters shall indicate their opinion on this question by a cross or check mark placed against the word "Yes" or "No." Before becoming effective, this Act must be approved by at least 2/3 of the legal voters voting at the general election, and the total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this Act at the election must equal or exceed 50% of the total number of votes cast in the town for Governor at the last gubernatorial election.

The municipal officers of the Town of Madrid shall declare the result of the vote. The town clerk shall file a certificate of the election result with the Secretary of State within 10 days from the date of the election.

Sec. 6. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1999-00	2000-01
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
Bureau of Revenue Services		
Personal Services	\$16,452	
All Other	3,950	
TOTAL	\$20,402	
Provides funds for a Property Tax Appraiser I position on a temporary basis effective January 1, 2000 to inventory and determine the valuation of		

all taxable property in the Town of Madrid.

Tree Growth Tax Reimbursement

All Other (\$31,000)

Deappropriates funds to reflect the reductions in tree growth tax reimbursements associated with the deorganization of the Town of Madrid.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES		
TOTAL	\$20,402	(\$31,000)

Sec. 7. Effective date. Sections 1 to 4 and section 6 of this Act take effect on July 1, 2000, if deorganization is approved by the voters of the Town of Madrid pursuant to section 5 of this Act.

Effective pending referendum.

CHAPTER 32

H.P. 867 - L.D. 1224

An Act Relating to Tree Growth Reimbursement

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

Whereas, several towns were ineligible for reimbursement for property tax loss resulting from classification under the tree growth tax law for program years 1997 and 1998 because their municipal valuation returns were not filed on time; and

Whereas, surplus funds are available in the appropriation for tree growth tax reimbursement in fiscal year 1998-99; and

Whereas, reimbursement for tree growth tax loss provides needed property tax relief; 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. Reimbursement for tree growth tax loss for 1997 and 1998 program years.

Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 578, the State Tax Assessor shall reimburse municipalities as provided in that section that were ineligible for reimbursement for program years 1997 and 1998 because the return required by Title 36, section 383 was not filed on time. For a municipality with a population of 2,000 or less, the payment must be reduced by \$50 for the first late day plus \$10 for each late day thereafter. For a municipality with a population of more than 2,000, the payment must be reduced by \$100 for the first late day plus \$20 for each late day thereafter. Reimbursement must be paid from any surplus remaining in the appropriation for tree growth tax reimbursement for fiscal year 1998-99. If the surplus is not sufficient to fund the full amount of reimbursement, payments must be prorated according to the amount available.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

Effective June 9, 1999.

CHAPTER 33

H.P. 1598 - L.D. 2243

An Act to Promote Research and Development Activities in Maine

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

Sec. 1. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1999-00	2000-01
EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
Learning Systems		
All Other	\$50,000	\$50,000
Provides funds to expand the Department of Education's partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to provide intensive, high-quality training in math and science for Maine educators.		

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
TOTAL	\$50,000	\$50,000

FOUNDATION FOR BLOOD RESEARCH		
ScienceWorks for ME		
All Other	\$25,000	\$25,000
Provides funds to support the ScienceWorks for ME equipment program to provide adequate laboratory equipment in secondary schools.		

FOUNDATION FOR BLOOD RESEARCH		
TOTAL	\$25,000	\$25,000

MAINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION		
Maine Science and Technology Foundation		
All Other	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)
Provides for the deappropriation of funds by reducing funds available for industry outreach efforts.		

Maine Science and Technology Foundation		
All Other	\$25,000	\$25,000
Provides funds to support the Maine Research Internships for Teachers and Students program to provide internship opportunities in science and mathematics for teachers and students.		

MAINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION		
TOTAL	(\$75,000)	(\$75,000)

SECTION		
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$0	\$0

See title page for effective date.