

# 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**

- A. The best method of determining compensation, which may be a hearing officer, panel or other method;
- B. A recommendation on how the person or persons making the compensation determinations are selected or appointed;
- C. The process to be used to determine individual compensation awards;
- D. Provisions for staff to help complainants develop their claims for presentation for consideration;
- E. Provisions for counselors and other support services to assist complainants;
- F. A timeframe for the establishment of the compensation program and the decision-making process and for the consideration of claims and issuance of final payments;
- G. A process for making recommendations for changes in the process to the Legislature;
- H. Rules or guidelines to ensure that deaf and hard-of-hearing persons can fully communicate and participate in the process; and
- I. Any other elements the committee determines to be appropriate; and be it further

**Sec. B-5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the committee; and be it further

**Sec. B-6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the committee members are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee; and be it further

**Sec. B-7. Report; extension. Resolved:** That the committee shall submit its report with any accompanying legislation to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature by November 1, 2000. If the committee requires a limited extension of time to conclude its study and make its report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it further

**Sec. B-8. Termination. Resolved:** That upon submission of its report, the committee terminates; and be it further

**Sec. B-9. Budget. Resolved:** That the committee chair with assistance from the committee staff shall administer the committee's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the committee shall present a work plan to the Legislative Council for

approval. The committee may not incur expenses that would result in the committee's exceeding its approved budget; and be it further

**Sec. B-10. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Part.

2000-01

**LEGISLATURE**

**Committee to Develop a Compensation Program for Victims of Abuse at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf**

Personal Services	\$2,200
All Other	29,500

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Committee to Develop a Compensation Program for Victims of Abuse at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, for costs related to consulting with compensation program experts, for public hearing costs and to print the required report.

**LEGISLATURE**

<b>TOTAL</b>	\$31,700
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**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

Effective May 10, 2000.

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**CHAPTER 128**

**S.P. 973 - L.D. 2519**

**Resolve, to Improve Access to Technical Education and Ensure a Skilled Work Force**

**Preamble.** Whereas, studies consistently show that the economic prosperity of citizens in the State is tied directly to their level of education; and

Whereas, studies consistently show that the State must graduate substantially more college students in order to compete in the new international and technical economy; and

**Whereas**, the State currently has one of the lowest higher education enrollment rates in the country, ranking 47th in the percentage of citizens enrolled in higher education; and

**Whereas**, asynchronous and synchronous distance education over the Internet is a very effective way to deliver college courses to the State's people, especially those who work full-time and live in rural areas; and

**Whereas**, it is critical to make investments that will enable the State's citizens to access their college education over fast, reliable and cost-effective technology; now, therefore, be it

**Sec. 1. Long-term access to technical colleges. Resolved:** That, to ensure that affordable access to quality higher education is sustained, the Maine Technical College System shall attempt to enroll 1,000 newly matriculated students in each of the next succeeding biennia after the effective date of this resolve until such time as the technical colleges cumulatively matriculate 10,000 students, and the Legislature intends to continue to appropriate and allocate the necessary funds to the Maine Technical College System.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 129**

**S.P. 923 - L.D. 2374**

**Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations Contained in the Report Entitled "Women's Health: An Action Plan for Maine"**

**Sec. 1. Women's health action plan implementation. Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health shall implement the recommendations contained in the report entitled "Women's Health: An Action Plan for Maine," prepared by Medical Care Development, Inc., by contracting with a nonprofit organization to provide technical assistance, training, strategic planning, policy analysis and coordination; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

**2000-01**

**HUMAN SERVICES,  
DEPARTMENT OF**

**Bureau of Health**

All Other \$200,000

Provides for the one-time appropriation of funds to implement recommendations in the "Women's Health: An Action Plan for Maine" report by contracting with a nonprofit organization to provide technical assistance, training, strategic planning, policy analysis and coordination.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 130**

**H.P. 1658 - L.D. 2327**

**Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Study Kindergarten-to-grade-12 Educator Recruitment and Retention**

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

**Whereas**, it is necessary and vital to the people of the State that the cause of teacher shortages and ways of recruiting and retaining teachers be determined; 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

**Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission to Study Kindergarten-to-grade-12 Educator Recruitment and Retention, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission consists of the following 14 members:

1. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee;
2. The Commissioner of Labor or the commissioner's designee from the Division of Labor Market Information Services;
3. Three members representing teachers who are public school teachers in the State, appointed by the Maine Education Association;