

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.

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
2000

2000-01

LEGISLATURE

Task Force to Reduce the Burden of Home Heating Costs on Low-income Households

Personal Services	\$880
All Other	1,300

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Task Force to Reduce the Burden of Home Heating Costs on Low-income Households and to print the required report.

**LEGISLATURE
TOTAL**

\$2,180

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

Effective May 10, 2000.

CHAPTER 133

S.P. 420 - L.D. 1257

Resolve, Directing the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to Adopt Rules Regulating Push Polling

Sec. 1. Push polling; rulemaking. Resolved: That the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices shall adopt rules regulating push polling, including sanctions for candidates whose campaigns violate such rules governing push polling. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 134

S.P. 529 - L.D. 1562

Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study the Establishment of an Environmental Leadership Program

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study the Establishment of an Environmental Leadership Program, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established; and be it further

Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 8 members appointed as follows:

1. Three members from the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate. When making the appointment, the President of the Senate shall give preference to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources, the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development or the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation; and

2. Five members from the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. When making the appointments, the Speaker of the House shall give preference to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources, the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development or the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation; and be it further

Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved: That the first Senate member named is the Senate chair and the first House member named is the House chair; and be it further

Sec. 4. Appointments; meetings. Resolved: That all initial appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making their appointments. The chairs of the commission shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission no later than 45 days following the effective date of this resolve. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall reappoint members or appoint new members from the 120th Legislature to serve on the commission by February 15, 2001. The commission may hold up to 8 meetings; and be it further

Sec. 5. Responsibilities. Resolved: That the responsibilities of the commission include the following:

1. To develop criteria for defining a company or business as an environmental leader;

2. To develop incentives to encourage companies and businesses to become environmental leaders and to attract environmental leaders to the State; and

3. To identify opportunities for and obstacles to creating an environmental leadership program; and be it further

Sec. 6. Working groups. Resolved: That the commission may form advisory working groups from among affected agencies, representatives of the business community, representatives of environmental groups, organizations devoted to economic growth and the public to help carry out its responsibilities; and be it further

Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved: That members of the commission are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Participants in the advisory working groups serve without compensation; and be it further

Sec. 8. Staff assistance. Resolved: That upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further

Sec. 9. Report. Resolved: That the commission shall submit a report and any implementing legislation by December 1, 2001 to the joint standing committees of the Legislature represented on the commission. If the commission 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. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters may report out a bill regarding an environmental leadership program to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature; and be it further

Sec. 10. Commission budget. Resolved: That the chairs of the commission, with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative Council for approval. The commission may not incur expenses that would result in the commission exceeding its approved budget; and be it further

Sec. 11. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

2000-01

LEGISLATURE

Commission to Study the Establishment of an Environmental Leadership Program

Personal Services	\$3,520
All Other	3,700

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Commission to Study the Establishment of an Environmental Leadership Program and to print the required report.

LEGISLATURE	
TOTAL	\$7,220

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 135

H.P. 1755 - L.D. 2461

Resolve, to Create a Commission to Study and Establish Moral Policies Regarding Foreign Investments and Foreign Purchasing by the State

Preamble. Whereas, Maine is a state that upholds the dignity of every human being, promotes basic human rights and supports social and economic justice; and

Whereas, Maine is a state that believes employers should fairly compensate hard work, that the health and safety of working people should be protected and that all forms of unlawful discrimination and abuse should not be tolerated; and

Whereas, there are manufacturers in foreign countries that do not share Maine's support of human rights and justice and those manufacturers' employment practices are characterized by poverty wages, forced overtime, child labor, unsafe and unhealthy workplace conditions and often abusive working conditions; and

Whereas, established international standards for ethical manufacturing are routinely violated; and

Whereas, sweatshops have been and continue to be a direct cause of job loss and depressed wages for citizens of Maine, whose employers relocate for cheap labor or threaten plant closings to force lower wages and contract concessions; and

Whereas, Maine can make a significant contribution to the campaigns against sweatshop manufacturing by supporting the enforcement of established ethical codes of corporate conduct; and

Whereas, there exists widespread popular support in Maine for the principle that purchases and investments by the State ought to be made under ethical conditions of production; now, therefore, be it