

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
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J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1999

SELECTED MEMORIALS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

**JOINT RESOLUTION
COMMEMORATING YOM
HASHOAH, THE DAY OF
REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO
SUFFERED AS VICTIMS OF THE
HOLOCAUST**

H.P. 1252

WHEREAS, from 1933 to 1945, 6,000,000 Jews were murdered in the Nazi Holocaust as part of a systematic program of genocide and millions of other people suffered as victims of Nazism; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should always remember the atrocities committed by the Nazis so that such horrors are never repeated; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should always remember those who liberated the Nazi concentration camps, some at the cost of their lives and others with lifelong emotional suffering, as holding an honored place in our history; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Maine should continually rededicate themselves to the principle of equal justice for all people, remain eternally vigilant against all tyranny and recognize that bigotry provides a breeding ground for tyranny to flourish; and

WHEREAS, April 13, 1999 has been designated internationally as a Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Nazi Holocaust, known as Yom HaShoah; and

WHEREAS, the national community pursuant to an Act of Congress will be commemorating the week of April 11th to April 18th as the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Nazi Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the people of the State of Maine to join in this international commemoration; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That, We, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature, now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, pause in solemn memory of the victims of the Nazi Holocaust, and urge one and all to recommit themselves to the lessons of the Nazi Holocaust through this international week of commemoration and express our common desire to continually strive to overcome prejudice and inhumanity through education, vigilance and resistance; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

**Read and adopted by the Senate March 10, 1999
and the House of Representatives March 10, 1999**

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING
PEACE EFFORTS IN NORTHERN
IRELAND**

H.P. 1341

WHEREAS, the celebration of St. Patrick's Day reminds us that for years Maine citizens and the people of the Republic of Ireland have sought peace in Northern Ireland; and

WHEREAS, Maine citizens are deeply gratified that peace is now possible in Northern Ireland; and

WHEREAS, former United States Senator George Mitchell has played a key role in bringing about peace in Northern Ireland; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature, now assembled in the First Regular Session, extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Honorable George Mitchell for his outstanding efforts in helping to establish peace in Northern Ireland; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the Taoiseach of the Republic of Ireland

**Read and adopted by the Senate March 17, 1999
and the House of Representatives March 17, 1999**

**JOINT RESOLUTION
MEMORIALIZING THE FEDERAL
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
TO SUPPORT A SINGLE AREA CODE
FOR THE STATE**

S.P. 686

WE, your Memorialists, the members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the Federal Communications Commission, as follows:

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WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Maine currently share a single telephone area code throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, a single telephone area code provides for nearly 8,000,000 telephone numbers for a population of only 1,200,000 people; and

WHEREAS, the current method for assigning blocks of telephone numbers is inefficient and wasteful, resulting in the assignment of more than 5,000,000 telephone numbers in Maine, most of which are unused and unusable; and

WHEREAS, this inefficient and wasteful system now threatens the loss of a single area code in Maine; and

WHEREAS, the costs and inconvenience to both residential and commercial telephone users of being forced to accept a 2nd telephone area code within the State are enormous; and

WHEREAS, technology will soon be available which will allow for a 10-fold increase in the efficiency of assigning telephone numbers; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission has prevented the Maine Public Utilities Commission and the utility regulators of other states from implementing code conservation measures; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, your Memorialists, hereby urge the Federal Communications Commission to permit the Maine Public Utilities Commission to implement code conservation measures at this time in order to temporarily avoid the need to go to a 2nd area code for Maine until such time as the technology is available for efficient number administration; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Federal Communications Commission.

**Read and adopted by the Senate March 18, 1999
and the House of Representatives March 23, 1999**

**JOINT RESOLUTION
MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
TO RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF
THE CHILD**

H.P. 1373

WE, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine, now assembled, in the First Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States and the United States Congress, as follows:

WHEREAS, children's rights require special protection and continuous improvement all over the world, as well as calling for the development and education of children in conditions of peace and security; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations has proclaimed that the period of childhood is entitled to special care and assistance; and

WHEREAS, the child should grow up in a family environment with happiness, love and understanding; and

WHEREAS, the child should be fully prepared to live the life of an individual in society; and

WHEREAS, the child should be brought up with dignity in a spirit of peace, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity; and

WHEREAS, in all countries of the world, there are children living in exceptionally difficult conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is important to have international cooperation in order to improve the living conditions of children in every country, in particular in the developing countries; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has broken all records as the most widely ratified human rights treaty in history; and

WHEREAS, the convention is the most rapidly and widely adopted human rights treaty in history with 191 States Parties; and

WHEREAS, only 2 countries have not ratified this agreement, Somalia and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the uniqueness of the treaty is that it is the first legally binding international instrument to incorporate the full range of children's human rights, which include civil and political rights as well as their economic, social and cultural rights, thus giving all rights equal emphasis; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, your Memorialists, request the President of the United States and the United States Congress to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan; each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation; the Speaker of the House or the equivalent officer in the 49 other states; and the President of the Senate or the equivalent officer in the 49 other states.

**Read and adopted by the House of Representatives
March 23, 1999 and the Senate March 25, 1999**

**JOINT RESOLUTION
MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
ALLOW THE STATES TO KEEP
THEIR TOBACCO SETTLEMENT
MONEY**

H.P. 1469

WE, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States and the United States Congress, as follows:

WHEREAS, the State of Maine settled its litigation against the tobacco industry on November 23, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government, through the federal Health Care Financing Administration, has asserted that it is entitled to a significant share of the state settlement on the basis that it represents the federal share of Medicaid costs; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government asserts that it is authorized and obligated, under the United States Social Security Act, to collect its share of any settlement funds attributable to Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the state lawsuit was brought for violation of state law under state law theories, and the state lawsuit did not make any federal claims; and

WHEREAS, the State bore all the risk and expense in the litigation brought in State Court and settled without any assistance from the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, the State is entitled to all of the funds negotiated in the tobacco settlement agreement without any federal claim; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, your Memorialists, request that the President of the United States and the United States Congress work together to support and sign legislation to allow the states to keep their tobacco settlement funds; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

**Read and adopted by the House of Representatives
March 30, 1999 and the Senate March 31, 1999**

**JOINT RESOLUTION COMMENDING
SEEDS OF PEACE**

S.P. 793

WHEREAS, Seeds of Peace is an extraordinary and unique effort that promotes understanding between warring peoples and tries to end bias and violence; and

WHEREAS, since 1993 Seeds of Peace has been bringing together teenagers from troubled parts of the world, such as the Middle East and Cyprus, at the Seeds of Peace International Camp in Otisfield, Maine; and

WHEREAS, the teenagers live, work and interact together in a camp setting, learning techniques in conflict management and how to settle differences peaceably and with respect for opposing viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, this work of peace is accomplished in the beautiful surroundings of rural Otisfield, Maine, with the timeless allure of woods, mountains and lakes; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,000 teenagers representing traditional enemies have attended the Seeds of Peace International Camp since its founding; and

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WHEREAS, these teenagers have forged bonds and friendships with each other that span the differences between their peoples; and

WHEREAS, these teenagers go back to their homelands where they continue the work that was started at the Seeds of Peace International Camp; and

WHEREAS, Seeds of Peace has been endorsed by such world figures as President Clinton; Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary General; Yasser Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority; Shimon Peres and the late Yitzhak Rabin, former Prime Ministers of Israel; and Queen Noor and the late King Hussein of Jordan; and

WHEREAS, the lessons taught by Seeds of Peace are vital lessons not only for peace in the world but also peace with our neighbors and those of different races, ethnicity and backgrounds here in the United States and Maine; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, your Memorialists, express our gratitude that the administrators of the Seeds of Peace International Camp have chosen rural Maine as the site of this extraordinary and unique program; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, take this occasion to recognize the Seeds of Peace initiative and to commend the Seeds of Peace International Camp, the camp's teenage participants and officials of the countries that have endorsed and supported the camp for the success they have achieved together in promoting understanding and peace among hostile neighbors; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Seeds of Peace Board of Directors.

Read and adopted by the Senate April 26, 1999 and the House of Representatives April 27, 1999

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING
AND HONORING MAINE'S
WABANAKI PEOPLE**

S.P. 803

WHEREAS, the Wabanaki people, the people of the Dawn, including the Passamaquoddy, the Penobscot, the Maliseet and the Micmac, have lived in Maine for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, the Wabanaki people have contributed much to our State's heritage; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine recognizes the contributions made to our State by the Wabanaki people; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine respects and honors the Wabanaki people and their cultures; and

WHEREAS, we encourage educators in Maine to teach our children about the Wabanaki people and their contributions to the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, we look to the new millennium as an opportunity to better understand and work side by side with the Wabanaki people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine, now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people of the State of Maine, make history as we welcome our Wabanaki brothers and sisters to the State House today, April 27, 1999, on the occasion of Wabanaki Awareness Day; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Governors and Chiefs of each of Maine's 5 Wabanaki communities on behalf of the people of the State of Maine.

Read and adopted by the Senate April 27, 1999 and the House of Representatives April 29, 1999
