

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 6, 2000 to June 22, 2001

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 21, 2001

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
2001

Whereas, it is desired to have these revisions be retroactive to January 1, 2001; 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Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2, sub-§1-B, ¶B, as repealed and replaced by PL 1999, c. 662, §1 and affected by §2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2001

B. Kennebec County:

<u>(1) Commissioners</u>	
<u>(a) Chair</u>	\$8,531
<u>(b) Members</u>	7,967
<u>(2) Treasurer</u>	10,221
<u>(3) Sheriff</u>	44,753
<u>(4) Judge of Probate</u>	22,856
<u>(5) Register of Probate</u>	28,442
<u>(6) Register of Deeds</u>	30,222

Sec. 2. Retroactivity. This Act applies retroactively to January 1, 2001.

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

Effective May 14, 2001.

CHAPTER 162

H.P. 369 - L.D. 471

An Act to Provide a Local Option on Display of the United States and State Flags

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §252-A, as amended by PL 1977, c. 696, §6, is further amended to read:

§252-A. Display

The United States flag ~~shall~~ and State of Maine flag ~~may~~ be flown at half ~~mast~~ staff only at such times as specified by the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Maine.

When the Governor considers it appropriate, the Governor may authorize the United States flag and the State of Maine flag to be flown at half staff throughout a political subdivision or a specified location or locations.

Any United States flag, except those flags having a historical significance, when being displayed ~~shall~~ must be in good condition at all times, not tattered, not torn ~~or~~ and not discolored.

~~Flying the United States flag in any manner in violation of the Federal United States Flag Code or in violation of this section is a Class E crime.~~

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 163

H.P. 285 - L.D. 363

An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding Name Changes

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

Sec. 1. 18-A MRSA §1-701, as amended by PL 1997, c. 18, §2 and affected by §6, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§1-701. Petition to change name

(a) If a person desires to have that person's name changed, the person may petition the judge of probate in the county where the person resides. If the person is a minor, the person's legal custodian may petition in the person's behalf.

(b) The judge, after due notice, may change the name of the person. To protect the person's safety, the judge may limit the notice required if the person shows by a preponderance of the evidence that:

- (1) The person is a victim of abuse; and
- (2) The person is currently in reasonable fear of the person's safety.

(c) The judge shall make and preserve a record of the name change. If the judge limited the notice required under subsection (2), the judge may seal the records of the name change.