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

minimizes duplicative or redundant investigations to the extent possible in response to the same or related allegations of out-of-home abuse or neglect in facilities or by persons subject to licensure by the department pursuant to this Title:

- D. Shall coordinate and consult with the bureau or service center staff performing general licensing functions to eliminate duplicative or redundant investigations to the extent possible and to prevent, correct or eliminate the abuse or neglect or threat of abuse or neglect in out-of-home settings;
- E. Shall provide the results of the investigation to the bureau's, <u>service center's or other department's</u> licensing staff for appropriate action;
- F. Shall include relevant professionals outside the department <u>or service center</u> as members of the team for all investigations of residential treatment centers, group homes or day care centers mandated by this subchapter and for other child care facilities as warranted;
- G. When a report alleges out-of-home abuse and neglect in facilities or by persons not subject to licensure by the department <u>or service center</u>, shall immediately refer the report to the <u>service center or</u> agency or department charged with the responsibility to investigate such a report or, if applicable, to the state department operating the facility;

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §4088, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

- 7. Access to records related to Governor Baxter School for the Deaf. Notwithstanding Title 20-A, section 6101, subsection 2, when the team is conducting an investigation of a person at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf who is subject to licensure by the Department of Education, the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf and the Department of Education shall disclose to the team records related to:
 - A. Background checks related to the person;
 - B. The person's credentials;
 - C. Any conduct on the part of the person related to the allegation; and
 - D. Any action taken by the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf or the Department of Education in response to conduct of any person at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf that is similar to the allegation.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 266

S.P. 291 - L.D. 1002

An Act Regarding Nursery School Rules

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

- Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §8402, sub-§3-A is enacted to read:
- **3-A. Rules.** The department shall establish routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A for the safe operation of nursery schools. These rules must be reasonably related to the health and safety of children cared for in nursery schools.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 267

S.P. 431 - L.D. 1411

An Act to Protect Highway Travelers and Maine's Highway System by Increasing Fines on Excessively Loaded Trucks

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

- Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2354, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1999, c. 580, §7 and affected by §14, is further amended to read:
- **2. 100,000 pounds.** One hundred thousand pounds, as long as the vehicle meets these requirements:
 - A. The distance between the extreme axles, excluding the steering axle, is not less than 36 feet as measured to the nearest foot. The maximum gross vehicle weight permitted is reduced by 2,000 pounds for each foot the distance is less than 36 feet between the extreme axles, excluding the steering axle, measured to the nearest foot; and
 - B. The minimum distance between the steering axle and the first axle of the tandem-axle group is at least 10 feet as measured to the nearest foot; and
 - C. The maximum weight on the:
 - (1) Tandem axle does not exceed 41,000 pounds; and