

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

immune from civil or criminal liability when complying with this subsection. Original written or recorded material that might express suicidal intent must be sent to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. The Chief Medical Examiner may elect to accept copies in place of originals.

Sec. 6. 22 MRSA §3028, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 538, §8, is amended to read:

6. Examination of body. In all cases except those requiring a report on a body already disposed of and not to be exhumed for examination, the medical examiner or the person expressly authorized by the Chief Medical Examiner shall conduct a thorough examination of the body.

Sec. 7. 22 MRSA §3028, sub-§7, as amended by PL 1995, c. 272, §3, is further amended to read:

7. Written report. Upon completing an investigation, the medical examiner or the person expressly authorized by the Chief Medical Examiner shall submit a written report of the investigator's findings to the Chief Medical Examiner on forms provided for that purpose. The ~~medical examiner~~ investigator shall retain one copy of the report.

If a ~~medical examiner~~ an investigator reports suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation to the Chief Medical Examiner, the Chief Medical Examiner, by reporting that information to the department on behalf of the ~~medical examiner~~ investigator, fulfills the medical examiner's mandatory reporting requirement under section 3477 or 4011.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 292

H.P. 1248 - L.D. 1696

An Act to Allow the Chief Medical Examiner to Assume the Responsibility for the Disposition of Human Remains

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3028-D is enacted to read:

§3028-D. Disposal of identified human remains without connection to State and unidentified human remains

1. Assumption of responsibility. The Chief Medical Examiner may assume responsibility for proper disposition of the identified human remains of

a deceased nonresident of this State or unidentified human remains that are the subject of a medical examiner case if the Chief Medical Examiner has made reasonable inquiry and is unable to locate:

A. Next of kin or a person or governmental unit legally responsible for the human remains; or

B. A person or governmental unit otherwise willing to assume responsibility for the human remains.

2. Necessary expenses. The expenses incurred by the Chief Medical Examiner must be paid as follows.

A. The department shall pay any necessary expenses incurred by the Chief Medical Examiner as to:

(1) Unidentified human remains that, after reasonable inquiry, the Chief Medical Examiner has determined not to be the human remains of an illegal alien; and

(2) A deceased nonresident other than an illegal alien.

B. The Department of the Attorney General shall pay any necessary expenses incurred by the Chief Medical Examiner as to:

(1) A deceased nonresident who is an illegal alien; and

(2) Unidentified human remains that, after reasonable inquiry, the Chief Medical Examiner has determined to be the human remains of an illegal alien.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 293

H.P. 1334 - L.D. 1790

An Act to Create the Healthy Maine Prescription Program

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

Whereas, the low-income citizens of the State are facing a lack of needed prescription drug services due to the high cost of such services; and

Whereas, the lack of such services poses a health threat to these citizens; and