

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 2, 2002 to April 25, 2002

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 25, 2002

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
2002

CHAPTER 701

S.P. 816 - L.D. 2197

An Act Concerning Disability Retirement Benefits under the Maine State Retirement System

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

Sec. 1. PL 2001, c. 443, §6 is amended to read:

Sec. 6. Restoration of benefit reductions. The Maine State Retirement System shall suspend implementation of Private and Special Law 1995, chapter 38, section 1 until ~~January 1, 2003~~ February 15, 2004 and shall reverse any permanent disability benefit reductions pursuant to that section that have occurred as a result of a benefit recipient's actual earnings in calendar years 1999 and 2000.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 702

H.P. 1695 - L.D. 2193

An Act to Create the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability

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

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §162, sub-§1-B is enacted to read:

1-B. Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability budget. To present the budget request of the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to the State Budget Officer as provided in Title 5, section 1665. If the budget presented pursuant to subsection 1-A differs from the budget request submitted by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability pursuant to this subsection, the Legislative Council shall simultaneously submit a report to that office and to the State Budget Officer explaining why the Legislative Council's budget request differs from the budget request of the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

Sec. 2. 3 MRSA c. 37 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 37**LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS****§991. Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability**

The Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability is created for the purpose of providing program evaluation of agencies and programs of State Government. The office also is established to ensure that public funds provided to local and county governments, quasi-municipal governments, special districts, utility districts, regional development agencies or any municipal or nonprofit corporation are expended for the purposes for which they were allocated, appropriated or contracted. When authorized by the committee, the office also may examine or direct an examination of any state contractor financed in whole or part by public funds and any expenditure by any public official or public employee during the course of public duty, including, but not limited to, any expenditure of private money for agency purposes.

§992. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Committee. "Committee" means a joint legislative committee established to oversee program evaluation and government accountability matters.

2. Director. "Director" means the Director of the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

3. Office. "Office" means the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability established in section 991.

4. Other entity. "Other entity" means any public or private entity in this State that may be subject to program evaluation under this chapter as the result of its receipt or expenditure of public funds.

5. Program evaluation. "Program evaluation" means an examination of any government program that includes performance audits, management analysis, inspections, operations or research or examinations of efficiency, effectiveness, or economy and, when determined necessary by the committee, financial audits and post-audits.

6. State agency. "State agency" means each state board, commission, department, program, office or institution, educational or otherwise, of this State.