

# 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.**

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**J.S. McCarthy Company**  
**Augusta, Maine**  
**2002**

**CHAPTER 57**

**H.P. 1630 - L.D. 2132**

**An Act to Allow the Town of Lincoln to Adjust the Definition of Original Assessed Value for a Downtown Tax Increment Financing District**

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

**Whereas,** the Town of Lincoln has suffered a disastrous fire resulting in the destruction of 25% of its downtown; and

**Whereas,** the Legislature has established a municipal tax increment financing program, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 207, as a local economic development tool to permit municipalities to finance new development projects; and

**Whereas,** the Town of Lincoln desires to take immediate steps to prepare a tax increment financing proposal to redevelop its downtown; 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. Authorization to adjust the definition of original assessed value.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 207, the Town of Lincoln may define "original assessed value" for the tax increment financing district it designates between April 1, 2002 and March 31, 2003 as the assessed value of the district as of April 1st of the current tax year.

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

Effective March 21, 2002.

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**CHAPTER 58**

**S.P. 703 - L.D. 1905**

**An Act to Clarify the Status of Henderson Brook Bridge**

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

**Sec. 1. River crossing.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1876, subsection 1, Henderson Brook Bridge may stand as a river crossing and may be repaired as necessary during the review by the Department of Conservation of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Management Plan prepared by the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation and printed in January of 1999. This review is required under the February 22, 2002 Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Conservation and the National Park Service.

If the recommendations developed during the review advise and the department concludes that Henderson Brook Bridge should not remain in use, the department shall report its decision to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public lands a minimum of 6 months prior to taking any action to remove the bridge.

This Act applies only to Henderson Brook Bridge and does not affect the status of any other issue in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 59**

**S.P. 707 - L.D. 1909**

**An Act to Permit the Town of Atkinson to Deorganize**

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

**Sec. 1. Deorganization of Town of Atkinson.** The Town of Atkinson in Piscataquis County is deorganized, except that the corporate existence, powers, duties and liabilities of the town survive for the purposes of prosecuting and defending all pending suits to which the town is, or may be, a party and all needful process arising out of any suits, including provisions for the payment of all or any judgments or debts that may be rendered against the town or exist in favor of any creditor.

**Sec. 2. Unexpended school funds.** The treasurer of the town or any other person who has custody of the funds of the town shall pay to the Treasurer of State all unexpended school funds that, together with the credits due the town for school purposes, are to be used by the State Tax Assessor to settle any school obligations contracted by the town before deorganization. Any unexpended school funds remaining with the Treasurer of State after all the