

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
November 13, 2002 to November 14, 2002

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 4, 2002 to June 14, 2003

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
FEBRUARY 13, 2003

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 13, 2003

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Penmor Lithographers
Lewiston, Maine
2003

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

Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2916-A, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1999, c. 617, §2, is further amended to read:

2. Accidents. When a named insured or any other person who operates a motor vehicle insured under the policy is individually or are aggregately involved in 2 or more vehicle accidents while operating a motor vehicle insured under the policy or under another policy issued by the same insurer for a motor vehicle in the same household, resulting in either personal injury or property damage in excess of the amount defined as a reportable accident under Title 29-A, section 2251, subsection 1. For the purpose of this subsection any of the following occurrences involving a motor vehicle operated by a named insured or such other person is not considered an accident when:

- A. The motor vehicle was struck from the rear;
- B. The motor vehicle was struck while parked;
- C. Only the operator of another motor vehicle involved in the accident was convicted of a crime, offense or violation contributing to the accident; or
- D. The named insured or other operator of the motor vehicle insured under the policy or the insurer of the policy, was reimbursed by or on behalf of, a person responsible for the accident or has a judgment against that person.

When more than one motor vehicle in a household is insured by the same insurer, the aggregate number of accidents that would permit nonrenewal of the policy or policies insuring those vehicles must, ~~for the aggregate,~~ be increased by one for each additional motor vehicle insured.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 27

H.P. 91 - L.D. 82

An Act Regarding Fish Stocking Decisions

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §7013-A, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 416, §1, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 28

H.P. 92 - L.D. 83

An Act To Expand Unemployment Benefits

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

Whereas, voluntary layoffs may ensure continued employment for others; and

Whereas, the present economy should allow for voluntary layoffs to occur immediately; 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. 26 MRSA §1193, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by PL 1991, c. 560, §2, is amended to read:

A. For the week in which the claimant left regular employment voluntarily without good cause attributable to that employment. The disqualification continues until the claimant has earned 4 times the claimant's weekly benefit amount in employment by an employer. A claimant may not be disqualified under this paragraph if:

- (1) The leaving was caused by the illness or disability of the claimant or an immediate family member and the claimant took all reasonable precautions to protect the claimant's employment status by promptly notifying the employer of the reasons for the absence and by promptly requesting reemployment when again able to resume employment;
- (2) The leaving was necessary to accompany, follow or join the claimant's spouse in a new place of residence and the claimant can clearly show within 14 days of arrival at the new place of residence an attachment to the new labor market, and the claimant is in all respects able, available and actively seeking suitable work;
- (3) The leaving was in good faith in order to accept new employment on a permanent