

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §244-A, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 46, is amended to read:

§244-A. Reports to the State Auditor

The head of any department ~~or~~ agency, bureau or division of the State or of any board, commission, agency or authority of any county, municipality, school district or ~~any~~ other political or administrative subdivision; who has any evidence of any improper or illegal transactions within ~~his~~ that department ~~or~~ agency, bureau or division shall immediately report the transactions to the State Auditor.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 83

S.P. 215 - L.D. 606

An Act To Improve State Accounting Procedures

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

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to provide for timely reporting to the Legislature after the end of fiscal year 2003; 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. 5 MRSA §1541-A is enacted to read:

§1541-A. Financial management and accounting practices

The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services and the State Controller shall:

1. Develop manual. Develop a financial management and accounting practices manual for the purpose of promulgating systemwide uniform financial management practices for state agencies. The manual must be updated on an annual basis; and

2. Develop program. Develop and implement a program to provide training on a periodic basis to appropriate financial and accounting personnel across department lines in State Government on uniform financial management and accounting practices.

Sec. 2. Report. The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services and the State Controller shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by January 31, 2004 on the steps taken and the progress made towards the development of the financial management and accounting practices manual and the development and implementation of training on uniform financial management and accounting practices as required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1541-A.

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

Effective April 25, 2003.

CHAPTER 84

H.P. 547 - L.D. 741

An Act To Expand the Powers and Authority of Case Management Officers in the Family Division

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §183, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 269, §1 and affected by §2, is amended to read:

D. Family case management officers shall employ appropriate case management techniques and have jurisdiction to hear and dispose of the following matters:

(1) Interim orders in actions involving the establishment, modification or enforcement of child support;

(2) Interim orders in actions involving divorce, legal separation, paternity or parental rights, including interim orders in post-judgment proceedings arising out of these actions, except that a contested motion concerning interim parental rights and responsibilities, excluding interim child support orders, may be determined by the family case management officer only if both parties consent to determination of the issue or issues in dispute by the family case management officer;

(3) Final orders in any of the matters included in subparagraphs (1) and (2) when the proceeding is uncontested;