# 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

children to a nonschool-based Head Start facility if the vehicle was placed in service prior to October 1, 2003.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 294**

S.P. 107 - L.D. 325

### An Act To Clarify the Laws Pertaining to the Surcharge for Records Preservation for the Registry of Deeds

Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, 2/3 of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

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

- **Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §752, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 1997, c. 503, §1, is amended to read:
- **3. Expenditures from account.** The money in the account established in subsection 2 must be used for the restoration, re-creation and preservation of the records recorded in the office of the register of deeds, including preservation by creation of a digital image stored on magnetic or optical media.
- **Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §752, sub-§4,** as amended by PL 2001, c. 317, §1, is repealed.
- Sec. 3. 33 MRSA §752, sub-§5 is enacted to read:
- 5. Annual report. The register of deeds for each county shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters on the amount of surcharge funds raised and expended and the use of those funds. The registers of deeds may jointly prepare and submit the report required under this subsection, as long as the required information is separately described for each county.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 295**

H.P. 780 - L.D. 1062

#### An Act To Protect Lienholders of Titled Vehicles

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

Whereas, the Secretary of State is releasing liens on titled vehicles that are older than 66 months assuming that they have been satisfied; and

Whereas, car loans are for periods that may run longer than 66 months; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect immediately so that liens that are on titled vehicles will not be released prior to the loan being satisfied; 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. 29-A MRSA §705, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 482, Pt. A, §16, is amended to read:
- 3. Assumed release of lien. Unless notified otherwise, the The Secretary of State, at the Secretary of State's discretion, may assume that any lien with a lien date more than 66 months old has been satisfied as provided in this subsection. The Secretary of State shall provide notice to the lienholder by both regular mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, that the lien will be assumed to be satisfied unless the lienholder objects in writing within 30 days of either receipt of the notice, as evidenced by the return receipt, or 45 days of mailing by the Secretary of State in the event the lienholder refuses delivery of the notice by certified mail. The notice must identify the vehicle by year, make, model and vehicle identification number and must include the date of the lien and the name of the owner as of the date of the lien.

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

Effective May 27, 2003.