# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# **LAWS**

## **OF THE**

# STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

### ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 1, 2004 to March 30, 2005

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION April 4, 2005 to June 18, 2005

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS JUNE 29, 2005

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST SPECIAL SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 17, 2005

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

> Penmor Lithographers Lewiston, Maine 2005

Sec. 1. Office of Consumer Credit Regulation authorized to study payday advance industry and related consumer credit lending issues in State. Resolved: That the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Consumer Credit Regulation, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, the banking and lending industry and consumers, shall conduct a study on the current market for payday advance services and subprime lending practices in the State and related consumer protection laws and educational services; and be it further

Sec. 2. Reporting date established. Resolved: That the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Consumer Credit Regulation shall report its findings under section 1, including any proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development by February 1, 2006.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 25**

S.P. 458 - L.D. 1331

Resolve, To Improve the Response Time for State Employees Seeking Job Reclassifications

- **Sec. 1. Expedited reclassification request process. Resolved:** That the following provisions apply to reclassification requests initiated by employ-
- 1. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources shall instruct state agencies to expedite the process of review and submission of employee-initiated reclassification requests. The Bureau of Human Resources shall modify the form for reclassification requests to provide a tear-off cover sheet with the date the employee signed the request to be forwarded to the Bureau of Human Resources by the agencies. The Bureau of Human Resources shall maintain a log for tracking the progress of employee-initiated reclassification requests.
- 2. Pursuant to an agreement reached by the State and the Maine State Employees Association, if an employee-initiated reclassification request is approved, interest will accrue effective upon the 91st day after the employee signed the reclassification request, rather than upon the date of final decision.
- 3. The Bureau of Human Resources shall absorb any costs associated with the expedited reclassification request process within its existing budget.

4. The Bureau of Human Resources shall report its progress on the status and impact of the expedited reclassification request process to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by March 15, 2006.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 26**

H.P. 323 - L.D. 438

Resolve, To Improve Access to Emergency Services in State Parks, Historic Sites and the Maine Wildlife Park

**Preamble. Whereas,** the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife strive to provide a safe environment for visitors to public facilities under their jurisdictions; and

Whereas, periodic review of safety policies and procedures is necessary to provide the safest possible environment within existing resources; and

Whereas, the family of Olyvia Pratt requested this legislation to facilitate the provision of the highest level of safety to visitors by the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; now, therefore, be it

- **Sec. 1. Policies; procedures. Resolved:** That the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall:
- 1. Review policies and procedures for contacting emergency service providers and mechanisms for communicating these policies and procedures to staff, emergency service providers and the visiting public;
- 2. Create and implement policies and procedures that allow emergency service providers immediate access to state-owned facilities when necessary;
- 3. Review and implement staff training to ensure timely responses to emergencies; and
- 4. Develop written emergency operating plans for all staffed facilities; and be it further
- **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall report the findings of the reviews under section 1 and actions taken in response to the reviews to the Joint Standing Committee on