

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007

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Penmor Lithographers
Lewiston, Maine
2007

CHAPTER 214

H.P. 1038 - L.D. 1476

An Act Relating to Bad Check Enforcement Programs Operated by Private Entities

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §11002, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2003, c. 562, §2, is further amended to read:

5. Debt. "Debt" means any obligation or alleged obligation of a consumer to pay money arising out of a transaction in which the money, property, insurance or services that are the subject of the transaction are primarily for personal, family or household purposes, whether or not the obligation has been reduced to judgment. "Debt" includes any obligation or alleged obligation for payment of child support owed to, or owed by, a resident of this State and any obligation or alleged obligation relating to a check returned because of insufficient funds if a consumer is subject to an enforcement program operated by a private entity.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 215

H.P. 1218 - L.D. 1735

An Act To Facilitate and Promote Regional Cooperation

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2305, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

§2305. Construction

This subchapter ~~shall~~ must be liberally construed toward the end of enabling councils to implement municipal programs and services on behalf of member municipalities, while avoiding the creation of special districts or other legal or administrative entities to accomplish these purposes. Programs and services may include, but are not limited to, programs and services for transit, solid waste, household hazardous waste, economic development, code enforcement, general financial and administrative activities and joint purchasing.

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §2313, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

1. Powers. The council may:

A. Study any ~~area~~ governmental ~~problems~~ needs and opportunities common to 2 or more members of the council that it considers appropriate, including, but not limited to, matters affecting health, safety, welfare, education, economic conditions and regional development;

B. Promote cooperative arrangements and coordinate action among its members, including, but not limited to, arrangements and actions with respect to transit services, joint purchasing, solid waste management and household waste management; ~~and~~

C. Make recommendations for review and action to its members and other public agencies that perform functions within the region; and

D. Prepare and maintain a comprehensive regional plan.

Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §2313, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

2. Authority. The council, on behalf of one or more member municipalities and upon appropriate action of the legislative bodies of one or more member municipalities, may exercise any power, privilege or authority capable of exercise by a member municipality and necessary or desirable for dealing with problems of local or regional concern, except essential legislative powers, taxing authority or eminent domain power. This authority is in addition to any other authority granted to municipalities by the general laws and includes, but is not limited to, the formation of transit, solid waste and other services operations.

Sec. 4. 30-A MRSA §2316, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 512, is amended to read:

5. Guarantees. Notwithstanding any law, charter, ordinance or limitation to the contrary, any one or more member municipalities of ~~the Greater Portland Council of Governments~~ a regional council may guarantee notes or other indebtedness or obligations of the ~~Greater Portland Council of Governments~~ regional council.

Sec. 5. 30-A MRSA §2321, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

2. Purposes. The purposes of a regional planning commission are to:

A. Promote cooperative efforts toward regional development;

B. Prepare and maintain a comprehensive regional plan; ~~and~~