

# 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**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2007**

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

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**Penmor Lithographers**  
**Lewiston, Maine**  
**2007**

**CHAPTER 417  
S.P. 335 - L.D. 1018**

**An Act To Require That a  
State Road Be in Good  
Condition before Being Turned  
over to a Municipality**

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

**Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §754, sub-§3**, as enacted by  
PL 1999, c. 473, Pt. C, §3, is amended to read:

**3. Good condition upon transfer.** When the responsibility for maintenance of a section of state or state aid highway is to be transferred to a municipality as a result of population growth, as determined using the decennial United States census, or the municipality meets the definition of a compact or built-up section under section 2, and when the municipality is not eligible to opt out of summer maintenance pursuant to subsection 2, paragraph C, the department shall prepare a capital and maintenance plan to ensure that the section of state or state aid highway is in good repair at the time of transfer. The plan must be developed in consultation with the affected municipality. For the purpose of this subsection, "good repair" means actions intended to reasonably avoid nonroutine maintenance activities for a minimum of 10 years and includes consideration of ditching, culverts, major structural defects and pavement condition ratings of 3.3 or higher as determined by the department. ~~This subsection applies to a municipality that has previously opted out of summer maintenance pursuant to subsection 2, paragraph C at such point as population growth makes the municipality ineligible to opt out.~~

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 418  
H.P. 257 - L.D. 313**

**An Act To Extend the Property  
Tax Exemption for Veterans to  
Persons Living in Cooperative  
Housing**

**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. 36 MRSA §653, sub-§2** is enacted to read:

**2. Cooperative housing corporations.** A cooperative housing corporation is entitled to an exemption to be applied against the valuation of property of the corporation that is occupied by qualifying shareholders. An application for exemption must include a list of all qualifying shareholders and any information required by the municipality to verify eligibility of qualifying shareholders and the applicable exemption amount. The application must be updated annually to reflect changes in eligibility. The exemption is equal to the total amount calculated under subsection 1 as if the qualifying shareholders were owners of the property. A cooperative housing corporation that receives an exemption pursuant to this section shall apportion the property tax reduction resulting from the exemption among the qualifying shareholders according to the proportion of the total exemption that each qualifying shareholder would be entitled to if the qualifying shareholder were the owner of property. Any supplemental assessment resulting from disqualification for exemption must be applied in the same manner against the qualifying shareholders for whom the disqualification applies. For the purposes of this subsection, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Cooperative housing corporation" means an entity organized for the purpose of owning residential real estate in which residents own shares that entitle them to inhabit a designated space within a residential dwelling.

B. "Qualifying shareholder" means a person who is a shareholder in a cooperative housing corporation who would qualify for an exemption under subsection 1 if the person were the owner of the property.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.**  
The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL  
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Veterans Tax Reimbursement 0407**

Initiative: Provides funds to reimburse municipalities for 50% of the estimated revenue loss associated with the veterans property tax exemption for persons living in cooperative housing.

GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
All Other	\$0	\$17,809
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$17,809

See title page for effective date.