

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 2, 2008 to March 31, 2008**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**April 1, 2008 to April 18, 2008**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 30, 2008**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JULY 18, 2008**

**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**  
**2008**

valuation. A municipality that fails to achieve the minimum assessment ratio established in section 327 loses 10% of the reimbursement provided by this section for each one percentage point the minimum assessment ratio falls below the ratio established in section 327.

~~A municipality may not receive a reimbursement payment under this section that would exceed an amount determined by calculating the tree growth tax loss less the municipal savings in educational costs attributable to reduced state valuation.~~ The State Tax Assessor shall adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules for the purposes of Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

C. The State Tax Assessor shall distribute reimbursement under this section to each municipality in proportion to the product of the reduced tree growth valuation of the municipality multiplied by the property tax burden of the municipality. For purposes of this paragraph, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

(1) "Property tax burden" means the total real and personal property taxes assessed in the most recently completed municipal fiscal year, except the taxes assessed on captured value within a tax increment financing district, divided by the latest state valuation certified to the Secretary of State.

(2) "Undeveloped land" means rear acreage and unimproved nonwaterfront acreage that is not:

(a) Classified under the laws governing current use valuation set forth in chapter 105, subchapter 2-A, 10 or 10-A;

(b) A base lot; or

(c) Waste land.

(3) "Average value of undeveloped land" means the per acre undeveloped land valuations used in the state valuation then in effect, or according to the current local valuation on undeveloped land as determined for state valuation purposes, whichever is less.

(4) "Reduced tree growth valuation" means the difference between the average value of undeveloped land and the average value of tree growth land times the total number of acres classified as forest land under this subchapter.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 640

### S.P. 604 - L.D. 1697

#### An Act To Ensure Fair Wages

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

**Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §603, sub-§3, ¶D,** as enacted by PL 1999, c. 750, §1, is amended to read:

D. An individual exempt from the definition of employee in section 663, subsection 3, paragraph A, ~~B~~, C, F, G, I or J;

**Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §663, sub-§3, ¶B,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 22, §1, is repealed.

**Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §663, sub-§3, ¶E,** as repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 516, §1, is repealed.

**Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 578, §1, is further amended to read:

**1. Minimum wage.** The minimum hourly wage is \$6.50 per hour. Starting October 1, 2006, the minimum hourly wage is \$6.75 per hour. Starting October 1, 2007, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.00 per hour. Starting October 1, 2008, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.25 per hour. Starting October 1, 2009, the minimum hourly wage is \$7.50 per hour. If the highest federal minimum wage is increased in excess of the minimum wage in effect under this section, the minimum wage under this section is increased to the same amount, effective on the same date as the increase in the federal minimum wage, but in no case may the minimum wage exceed the minimum wage otherwise in effect under this section by more than \$1 per hour.

**Sec. 5. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§3, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 305, §1, is repealed.

**Sec. 6. 26 MRSA §664, sub-§3, ¶E,** as amended by PL 2001, c. 628, §1 and affected by §5, is repealed.

**Sec. 7. Administration.** The Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards shall perform any increase in the number of inspections and investigations associated with the removal of several major exemptions from the minimum wage and overtime provisions under this Act within its existing resources.

**Sec. 8. Administration.** The Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards shall perform any increase in the number of inspections and investigations associated with the removal of several major exemptions from the minimum wage and overtime provisions under this Act within its existing resources.

See title page for effective date.