

# 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 123**  
**H.P. 560 - L.D. 739**

**Resolve, Directing the  
Department of Economic and  
Community Development To  
Review and Report on  
Whether a State Tax  
Increment Financing Structure  
Should Be Established To  
Support Economic  
Development in Washington  
County**

**Sec. 1. Department of Economic and Community Development study. Resolved:** That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall review the state tax increment financing mechanism established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 206, subchapter 2 to determine whether a similar mechanism to share state revenues from new economic activity in Washington County with the Washington County Development Authority would be an effective method of providing economic development assistance to Washington County. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall work with the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services and other interested parties to analyze the fiscal impact of such a system on state revenues and on economic development in Washington County and report the results of its review to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation by November 1, 2007. The Joint Standing Committee on Taxation may submit to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature a bill related to the report.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 124**  
**H.P. 1224 - L.D. 1758**

**Resolve, To Promote  
Alternative Schools within  
Existing School Systems**

**Sec. 1. Committee established. Resolved:** That the Alternative Education Programs Committee, referred to in this resolve as "the committee," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Committee membership. Resolved:** That the committee consists of 13 members appointed as follows:

1. Three members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

2. Four members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

3. One member from the University of Maine Institute for the Study of Students at Risk, appointed by the President of the Senate;

4. Two members from the alternative education advisory committee established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5152, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

5. One member from the Department of Education, Office of Truancy, Dropout and Alternative Education, appointed by the President of the Senate;

6. One member from the Alternative Education Association of Maine, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

7. One member from the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition, established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7803, appointed by the President of the Senate; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair of the committee and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the committee; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of committee. Resolved:** That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the committee shall conduct a review of all existing alternative education programs and how they are beneficial to youth at risk in Maine.

1. The committee shall:

A. Determine the number and types of kindergarten to grade 12 alternative education programs existing in the State;

B. Determine the number of students participating in alternative education programs;

C. Study the population served by the alternative education programs;

D. Review the practices that exist for at-risk youth and youth needing alternatives in education;

E. Determine how the alternative education programs help in raising graduation rates and lowering dropout rates;

F. Provide the percentage of youth who were identified as being at risk but completed high

school through participation in an alternative education program;

G. Research local, state and federal funding sources;

H. Check how alternative education programs contribute toward helping students be college, work and citizenship ready;

I. Coordinate alternative education programs with extended learning opportunities such as 21st-century learning centers, advance placement and employment opportunities;

J. Identify the geographic regions in which students do not have access to alternative education programs;

K. Provide anecdotal data regarding the impact of alternative education on the lives of students and their parents; and

L. Seek professional development opportunities for staff and administration on meeting the needs of at-risk youth.

2. The committee may hold informational sessions and discussions with experts and interested parties; and be it further

**Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the committee; and be it further

**Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the legislative members of the committee are entitled to receive the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee. Public members not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses and, upon a demonstration of financial hardship, a per diem equal to the legislative per diem for their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee; and be it further

**Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 19, 2007, the committee shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The committee is authorized to introduce legislation related to its report to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature at the time of submission of its report; and be it further

**Sec. 9. Extension. Resolved:** That, if the committee requires a limited extension of time to complete its study and make its report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant an extension; and be it further

**Sec. 10. Committee budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the committee, with assistance from the committee staff, shall administer the committee's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the committee shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative Council for its approval. The committee may not incur expenses that would result in the committee's exceeding its approved budget. Upon request from the committee, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the committee chairs and staff with a status report on the committee budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available funds.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 125**  
**S.P. 82 - L.D. 245**

**Resolve, To Direct the  
Secretary of State To Study  
Issues Related to Dealer Plates**

**Sec. 1. Secretary of State to examine laws. Resolved:** That the Secretary of State shall establish a working group to examine and develop recommendations for changes to the laws and rules governing dealer plates, including, but not limited to, laws governing the number of types of dealer plates issued and eligibility standards for issuance of the plates. The Secretary of State shall seek to include in the working group persons representing new car dealers, used car dealers and equipment dealers. The working group also must include a representative of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The Secretary of State shall report the findings and recommendations of the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no later than November 30, 2007. The Secretary of State shall include with the report draft legislation to make appropriate changes to the dealer plate laws based on the findings and recommendations of the working group; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Authorization to submit legislation. Resolved:** That the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation may submit a bill related to the subject matter of the working group's report to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

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