

# LAWS

# OF THE

# **STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 3, 2008 to June 13, 2009

# THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

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Augusta, Maine 2009

#### FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 2009

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

**Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §652, sub-§1, ¶K,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 627, §20, is further amended to read:

K. The Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the real and personal property leased by and occupied or used solely for its own purposes by an incorporated benevolent and charitable organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501 of the Code and the primary purpose of which is the operation of a hospital licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services, a health maintenance organization or a blood bank are exempt from taxation. For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2012, the exemption provided by this paragraph does not include real property.

See title page for effective date.

#### CHAPTER 426

# H.P. 716 - L.D. 1041

# An Act To Alter the Mechanism by which a Political Party is a Qualified Party

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §301, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 1999, c. 450, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §301, sub-§1, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. At least 10,000 voters enrolled in the party voted in the last general election.

See title page for effective date.

#### CHAPTER 427

#### H.P. 494 - L.D. 711

### An Act To Authorize the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA c. 110, sub-c. 2-B is enacted to read:

#### **SUBCHAPTER 2-B**

# SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

#### <u>§1038. Social Work Education Loan Repayment</u> <u>Program</u>

**1. Definitions.** As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Fund" means the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Fund established in subsection <u>4.</u>

B. "Program" means the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program established in subsection 2.

2. Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program. The Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program is established for the purpose of increasing the number of social workers practicing in the State.

**3.** Criteria. For an applicant to participate in the program, the applicant must:

A. Be a social worker licensed under Title 32, chapter 83;

B. Have completed a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree in social work from an accredited school of social work within 3 years prior to the date the applicant's application is received by the authority;

<u>C.</u> Possess an outstanding education loan relating to the degree;

D. Practice in an underserved practice area, including but not limited to the practice of social work:

(1) In a public or private child welfare or family service agency:

(2) In a public interest law service;

(3) In a public child care facility;

(4) In a public service for individuals with disabilities;

(5) In a public service for the elderly;

(6) In a public service for veterans; or

(7) At an organization exempt from taxation under the Unites States Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(3).

Priority consideration must be given to social workers practicing in a public or private child welfare or family service agency, in a public service for the elderly or in a public service for individuals with disabilities: