

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 1, 2010 to June 29, 2011

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

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

Augusta, Maine
2011

(2) Lines must be painted on the side of the tree, post or other object that is visible to a person approaching the restricted property and must be painted within an area 3 feet to 6 feet above ground level.

(3) The paint must be silver or aluminum colored.

This paragraph is repealed September 12, 2012.

Sec. 5. 17-A MRSA §402, sub-§4, ¶B-1 is enacted to read:

B-1. Paint markings made pursuant to this paragraph mean that access is prohibited without permission of the landowner or the landowner's agent. Paint markings made pursuant to this paragraph must consist of a conspicuous vertical line at least one inch in width and at least 8 inches in length and must be placed so that the bottoms of the marks are not less than 3 feet from the ground or more than 5 feet from the ground at locations that are readily visible to any person approaching the property and no more than 100 feet apart. Paint markings may be placed on trees, posts or stones as described in this paragraph. The Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry shall adopt rules to determine the color and type of paint that may be used to post property pursuant to this paragraph. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective July 6, 2011.

CHAPTER 433

H.P. 200 - L.D. 247

An Act To Amend the Gift Card Laws

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §1953, sub-§1, ¶G, as amended by PL 2007, c. 696, §1, is further amended to read:

G. A gift obligation or stored-value card, 2 years after December 31st of the year in which the obligation or the most recent transaction involving the obligation or stored-value card occurred, whichever is later, including the initial issuance and any subsequent addition of value to the obligation or stored-value card. ~~A period of limitation may not be imposed on the owner's right to redeem the gift obligation or stored value card. The amount un-~~

~~claimed is 60% of the gift obligation's or stored-value card's face value. Notwithstanding section 1956, fees or charges may not be imposed on gift obligations or stored value cards, except that the issuer may charge a transaction fee for the initial issuance and for each occurrence of adding value to an existing gift obligation or stored value card. These transaction fees must be disclosed in a separate writing prior to the initial issuance or referenced on the gift obligation or stored value card. Beginning November 1, 2008, if the gift obligation or stored value card, other than a prepaid telephone service card, a gift obligation or non-reloadable stored value card with an initial value of \$5 or less or a stored value card that is not purchased but provided as a promotion or as a refund for merchandise returned without a receipt, is redeemed in person and a balance of less than \$5 remains following redemption, at the consumer's request the merchant redeeming the gift obligation or stored value card must refund the balance in cash to the consumer. This paragraph does not apply to prefunded bank cards;~~

(1) The amount unclaimed is 60% of the gift obligation's or stored-value card's face value.

(2) A gift obligation or stored-value card sold on or after December 31, 2011 is not presumed abandoned if the gift obligation or stored-value card was sold by a single issuer who in the past calendar year sold no more than \$250,000 in face value of gift obligations or stored-value cards. Sales of gift obligations and stored-value cards are considered sales by a single issuer if the sales were by businesses that operate either:

(a) Under common ownership or control with another business or businesses in the State; or

(b) As franchised outlets of a parent business.

(3) A period of limitation may not be imposed on the owner's right to redeem the gift obligation or stored-value card.

(4) Notwithstanding section 1956, fees or charges may not be imposed on gift obligations or stored-value cards, except that the issuer may charge a transaction fee for the initial issuance and for each occurrence of adding value to an existing gift obligation or stored-value card. These transaction fees must be disclosed in a separate writing prior to the initial issuance or referenced on the gift obligation or stored-value card.

(5) Beginning November 1, 2008, if the gift obligation or stored-value card is redeemed in person and a balance of less than \$5 remains

following redemption, at the consumer's request the merchant redeeming the gift obligation or stored-value card must refund the balance in cash to the consumer. This subparagraph does not apply to a prepaid telephone service card, a gift obligation or nonreloadable stored-value card with an initial value of \$5 or less or a stored-value card that is not purchased but provided as a promotion or as a refund for merchandise returned without a receipt.

(6) This paragraph does not apply to pre-funded bank cards:

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 434
H.P. 141 - L.D. 164**

An Act To Extend the Dental Care Access Credit for Dentists Who Practice in Underserved Areas of the State

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5219-DD, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 141, §2, is amended to read:

2. Credit. An eligible dentist determined to be eligible before January 1, 2012 is allowed a credit for each taxable year, not to exceed \$15,000, against the taxes due under this Part. For dentists determined to be eligible on or after January 1, 2012, an eligible dentist is allowed a credit for each taxable year, not to exceed \$12,000, against the taxes due under this Part. The credit may be claimed in the first year that the eligible dentist meets the conditions of eligibility for at least 6 months and each of the 4 subsequent years. The credit is not refundable.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §5219-DD, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 141, §2, is amended to read:

3. Eligibility limitation; certification. The oral health program shall certify up to 5 eligible dentists in each year in 2009 and 2010 and 2011 and up to 5 6 additional eligible dentists in 2010 each year from 2012 through 2015. Additional dentists may not be certified after ~~2010~~ 2015. The oral health program shall monitor certified dentists to ensure that they continue to be eligible for the credit under this section and shall decertify any dentist who ceases to meet the conditions of eligibility. The oral health program shall notify the bureau whenever a dentist is certified or decertified. A decertified dentist ceases to be eligible for the credit under this section beginning with the tax year during which the dentist is decertified.

Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §5219-DD, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 141, §2, is amended to read:

6. Repeal. This section is repealed December 31, ~~2015~~ 2020.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 435
H.P. 215 - L.D. 262**

An Act To Expand Eligibility of Certain Municipal Landfills To Participate in the State's Remediation and Closure Program

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1310-F, sub-§1-B, as repealed and replaced by PL 1997, c. 479, §1, is amended to read:

1-B. Closure cost-share fraction. Subject to the availability of funds, the commissioner shall issue grants or payments for the following percentages of landfill closure costs incurred by municipalities.

A. The state cost share is 75% of closure costs incurred before July 1, 1994.

B. The state cost share is 50% of landfill cover costs and 75% of other closure costs incurred on or after July 1, 1994 and before January 1, 1996.

C. The state cost share is 30% of landfill cover costs and 75% of other closure costs incurred on or after January 1, 1996 and before January 1, 2000.

D. Notwithstanding paragraphs B and C, the state cost share is 75% of closure costs, including landfill cover costs, incurred on or after July 1, 1994 and before January 1, 2000, if:

- (1) The costs are incurred pursuant to a written agreement between the municipality and the department executed before July 1, 1994; or
- (2) The commissioner determines that the closure work was delayed for reasons beyond the control of the municipality and the costs are identified in and incurred pursuant to a written agreement between the municipality and the department.

E. Notwithstanding paragraphs B, C and D, the state cost share is 75% of closure costs, including landfill cover costs, incurred on or after July 1, 1994 and before December 31, 2015, if: