MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION September 27, 2011

SECOND REGULAR SESSION January 4, 2012 to May 31, 2012

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

Augusta, Maine 2012

quirements or terminate the running of the period of deferment and conduct a dispositional hearing and impose a disposition authorized for the juvenile crime to which the juvenile entered an admission. If the court finds that the juvenile has not inexcusably failed to comply with a court-imposed deferment requirement, the court may order that the running of the period of deferment continue or, after notice and hearing, take any other action permitted under this chapter. If the alleged violation is of a conditional release requirement, the juvenile community corrections officer must receive notice of the hearing.

6. Warrant for arrest. If during the period of deferment the attorney for the State has probable cause to believe that a juvenile who was granted deferred disposition pursuant to section 3311-B has violated a court-imposed deferment requirement, the attorney for the State may apply for a warrant for the arrest of the juvenile. If the alleged violation is of a conditional release requirement, the juvenile community corrections officer must receive notice of the application. In addition, if the alleged violation is of a conditional release requirement, the provisions of section 3203-A, subsection 9 apply.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 481 H.P. 1233 - L.D. 1643

An Act To Enhance a Community's Ability To Establish or Update Its Veterans Honor Roll

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

Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §509, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

- 5. Release of information for veterans honor roll. Upon request in a manner determined by the bureau, the bureau may release the following information relating to a person from a municipality who has honorably served in the United States Armed Forces to a municipal official, as defined in Title 30-A, section 2001, subsection 11, for the purpose of establishing or updating a veterans honor roll in that municipality:
 - A. The name of the person;
 - B. The date the person entered the service;
 - C. The branch of the service entered; and
 - D. The date the person was honorably discharged.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 482 S.P. 527 - L.D. 1617

An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Transportation To Allow Certain Vehicles To Operate on the Interstate System

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, federal law has been enacted to allow vehicles up to 100,000 pounds gross vehicle weight on all of the interstate system in the State for a period of 20 years; and

Whereas, in order to ensure that Maine is in conformity with the federal law, this legislation provides rule-making authority to the Commissioner of Transportation; and

Whereas, allowing heavier vehicles to travel on the interstate system in the State rather than on local roads promotes safety, reduces pollution and allows for more cost-effective commercial transportation; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore.

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2355-B is enacted to read:

§2355-B. Exemption for weight, axle and configuration limits on interstate system

Notwithstanding the weight, axle and configuration limits specified in section 2355, subsections 1 to 3, for as long as the provisions of 23 United States Code, Section 127(a)(11) affording an exemption from the federal vehicle weight limitations for vehicles operating on all portions of the interstate system are in effect, the Commissioner of Transportation, by rule, may allow the operation of a vehicle on the interstate system if the vehicle complies with the provisions of this chapter applicable to the operation of vehicles on public ways other than the interstate system. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. As used in this section, "interstate system" has the same meaning as in Title 23, section 1903, subsection 3.

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

Effective March 5, 2012.

CHAPTER 483 H.P. 1279 - L.D. 1729

An Act To Clarify the Minimum Wage Law as It Relates to People with Disabilities

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §666, as amended by PL 1971, c. 620, §13, is further amended to read:

§666. Workers with disabilities

For any employment in to which the minimum wage is applicable, the director may issue to an employer for any person physically handicapped by age, or otherwise, with a disability a special certificate authorizing the employment of such person for a period not to exceed one year at a wage less than the minimum wage established by this subchapter employer to pay that person a wage less than the minimum wage, based on the ability of the person to perform the duties required for that employment in comparison to the ability of a person who does not have a disability to perform the same duties. The director may hold such hearings and conduct such investigations as he shall deem necessary for the purpose of fixing the special minimum wage for the licensee person. Such license A certificate is valid for 2 years from the date of issue and may be renewed from time to time by the director. The director may issue a certificate to cover several employees with disabilities as long as the employer provides documentation justifying the special minimum wage.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 484 H.P. 695 - L.D. 935

An Act To Create Fair and Open Competition in Line Extension Construction

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §315 is enacted to read:

§315. Transmission and distribution utility line extension construction

- 1. **Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.
 - A. "Line" has the same meaning as in section 314, subsection 1, paragraph A.
 - B. "Make-ready work" means work necessary to connect a line extension to existing utility infrastructure.
- 2. Line extension charge. Amounts charged by a transmission and distribution utility serving more than 500,000 retail customers for a line extension are governed by this subsection.
 - A. Through a proceeding or rulemaking and in accordance with this section and section 314, the commission shall establish the method to be used by a transmission and distribution utility serving more than 500,000 retail customers for line extension pricing. The method may include the amount to be charged per foot for the completion of a line extension.
 - B. Revenue received by a transmission and distribution utility serving more than 500,000 retail customers from a telephone utility may not be used to offset the total cost of or amount charged to a customer for a line extension.
 - C. A transmission and distribution utility serving more than 500,000 retail customers shall report annually to the commission, on a date determined by the commission, the total amount charged to customers for line extensions and the total actual costs to the transmission and distribution utility serving more than 500,000 retail customers to complete those line extensions for a prior 12-month period determined by the commission.
 - D. If a report pursuant to paragraph C demonstrates that charges to customers for line extensions are less than 95% of total actual costs or greater than 105% of total actual costs during the reporting period, the commission, within 30 days of the date of the filing of the report, shall open an investigation to determine the appropriate adjustments to be made to the method used by the transmission and distribution utility pursuant to paragraph A to establish the amount charged to a customer for a line extension so that the total amount charged to customers is no less than 95% and no more than 105% of total actual costs for the line extensions.
- 3. Cost recovery. Any cost associated with construction of a line extension that is not recovered by a transmission and distribution utility serving more than 500,000 retail customers through the charges estab-