

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

THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 30, 2012

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

Augusta, Maine
2012

between the interstate or foreign cruise provider and the person providing the transportation.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 502

H.P. 722 - L.D. 978

An Act To Provide for School Enrollment and an Appeal Process in Specific Cases in Which Students Do Not Reside with Parents

Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, 2/3 of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §5205, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1991, c. 365, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Other students not living at home. A student other than a state ward, a state agency client or a homeless child, residing with another person who is not the student's parent, is considered a resident of the school administrative unit where the student resides if the superintendent of the unit determines that it is in the best interest of the student because ~~of the following~~ that person is residing in the school administrative unit for other than just education purposes and:

- A. ~~It is undesirable and impractical for that student to reside with the student's parent, or that other extenuating circumstances exist which justify residence in the unit; and~~
- B. ~~That person is residing in the school administrative unit for other than just education purposes.~~
- C. There is a safety reason for the student not to reside with the student's parent; or
- D. Other extenuating circumstances exist that justify residence in the unit.

If a person who is not the student's parent or legal guardian requests that a student be considered a resident under this subsection, the school administrative unit shall take reasonable steps to attempt to notify a parent or legal guardian of the request.

In determining whether it is in the best interest of the student to enroll in the school administrative unit, the superintendent shall consult with knowledgeable em-

ployees of relevant school administrative units that the superintendent considers appropriate.

The superintendent shall send written notice of the enrollment determination to the person making a request within 10 calendar days of receiving the request to enroll a student pursuant to this subsection. If the determination is to deny enrollment because the superintendent determines that enrollment in the school administrative unit is not in the best interest of the student as provided in this subsection, the superintendent shall send to the person who made the request written notice of the denial of enrollment, the reason for the denial and the right to appeal to the commissioner.

The commissioner shall review the superintendent's determination ~~on the request of appeal by the student's parent or legal guardian or the person with whom the student is residing and shall make a decision within 7 calendar days of receiving the appeal.~~ Upon request of the superintendent of schools in the unit in which a student is placed in accordance with this subsection, the state share percentage for subsidized educational costs for that student is equivalent to the state share percentage of the unit in which the student's parent or legal guardian resides or the average state share percentage, whichever is greater. If the parent or legal guardian does not reside in the State or can not be located, the subsidy is the state average subsidy.

Sec. 2. Model explanation. The Commissioner of Education shall prepare and distribute a model for superintendents of schools to use to explain the appeal process when a superintendent determines attendance by a student in the superintendent's school administrative unit is not in the student's best interest under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5205, subsection 2.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 503

H.P. 448 - L.D. 590

An Act To Codify the Review Practice of Certain Changes in the Application of the Sales and Use Tax Law

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §194-A is enacted to read:

§194-A. Review of certain changes in the application of sales and use tax law

1. Consultation. Before implementing a significant change in policy, practice or interpretation of the

sales and use tax law that would result in additional revenue, the bureau shall consult with the Office of the Attorney General to determine if the change should be reviewed by the appropriate legislative committee of oversight. If the consultation results in an agreement that a proposed change in policy, practice or interpretation of the sales and use tax law is a significant change that would result in additional revenue and should be reviewed by the appropriate legislative committee of oversight, the bureau shall notify the appropriate legislative committee of oversight pursuant to subsection 2.

2. Notification and review. If, pursuant to subsection 1, the Office of the Attorney General and the bureau agree that a proposed change in policy, practice or interpretation of the sales and use tax law is a significant change that would result in additional revenue and should be reviewed by the appropriate legislative committee of oversight, the bureau shall notify the chairs of the appropriate legislative committee of oversight of the results of the consultation at least 45 days prior to implementation of the change in policy, practice or interpretation of the sales and use tax law, if reasonably practicable. The chairs of the legislative committee of oversight shall notify all committee members in writing of the proposed change in policy, practice or interpretation of the sales and use tax law and may schedule a time for committee review and discussion.

3. Report. The bureau shall report annually by January 15th to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters regarding the consultation process and, consistent with attorney-client privilege and any other legal privilege and legal confidentiality requirements, provide a brief summary of the issues for which a consultation was sought and the results of each consultation.

4. Assessment validity. The provisions of this section establish a procedural consultation and reporting requirement to assist routine legislative oversight. It does not affect the validity of any assessment or tax liability under this Title.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 504

S.P. 321 - L.D. 1088

**An Act Regarding the Writing
of Bad Checks**

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

Sec. 1. 17-A MRS-A §708, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2001, c. 383, §78 and affected by §156, is further amended to read:

2. Proof of the following gives rise to a permissible inference under the Maine Rules of Evidence, Rule 303 that the person issuing or negotiating the instrument knew that it would not be honored:

A. The drawer had no account with the drawee at the time the instrument was negotiated; ~~or~~

B. Payment was refused by the drawee for lack of funds upon presentment made within the time frame specified in Title 11, section 3-1304, and the drawer failed to honor the drawer's contract within 5 days after actual receipt of a notice of dishonor, as defined in Title 11, section 3-1503, ~~provided except~~ that this time limit is tolled during one subsequent presentment of the negotiable instrument; ~~or~~

C. The drawer refuses to tender payment in the amount of the instrument within 5 days of receipt of a notice under this paragraph mailed by certified or registered mail evidenced by return receipt at the address printed on the instrument or given at the time of issuance. The notice must be substantially as follows:

"You are hereby notified that the following instrument(s):

Number: Date: Amount:
Name of Bank: drawn upon
..... and payable to
(has)(have) been dishonored. Pursuant to Maine law, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 708, subsection 2, you have 5 days from receipt of this notice to tender payment of the total amount of the instrument(s) plus the applicable service charge(s) of \$.....(.....dollars andcents) and any fee charged to the holder of the instrument(s) by a bank or financial institution as a result of the instrument(s) not being honored, the total amount due being \$.....(.....dollars and.....cents). Pursuant to Title 17-A, section 708, subsection 2, unless this amount is paid in full towithin 5 days after the actual receipt of this notice of dishonor, your failure to pay the amount owed gives rise to a permissible inference under the Maine Rules of Evidence, Rule 303 that you knew that your instrument(s) would not be honored. Your failure to pay the amount owed could result in a report to a law enforcement agency for investigation and possible criminal prosecution for negotiating a worthless instrument in violation of Title 17-A, section 708, subsection 1."

See title page for effective date.
