

## 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

which case, such by laws. The bylaws and provisions so adopted shall apply to said the water district as fully, to for all intents and purposes, as the other provisions of this act, subject to alterations and additions only by a two thirds simple majority vote of the legal voters of said the water district present and voting at a legal meeting thereof called for the purpose.

#### PART B

Sec. B-1. **Public Utilities Commission to** examine certain issues. The Public Utilities Commission shall convene a stakeholder group to examine financial issues related to the loss of customers by water utilities and the effect the loss has on the utilities' ability to pay for infrastructure as well as the effects on remaining customers. The commission shall invite participation from a broad range of interested entities. The stakeholder group shall examine whether there are appropriate means by which contributions to system costs may be collected from customers who discontinue service or from property owners whose property has been served or may be served by the system and if so how the collection may be done in a manner that is just and reasonable. The group may also examine readiness-to-service charges and requirements to take service or other mechanisms and shall seek to develop appropriate models for addressing issues created by the loss of customers by water utilities. The commission shall report the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group, together with the commission's analysis of those findings and recommendations, and any proposals of the stake-holder group for changes to law to implement its recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters by February 15, 2013. The committee may report out a bill on the subject matter of the report to the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

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

Effective April 12, 2012.

### CHAPTER 27 H.P. 1403 - L.D. 1901

#### An Act To Amend the Charter of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority

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

**Sec. 1.** P&SL 1967, c. 92, §14, first ¶, as amended by P&SL 2001, c. 6, §1, is further amended to read:

Sec. 14. Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Board. The authority is under the management and direction of a board of directors, which is known as the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Board, also referred to as "the board" or "the board of the authority." The board consists of 7 members. The director of the Lewiston Department of Public Works, the City Administrator or acting City Administrator of the City of Lewiston or the Assistant City Administrator, if designated by the City Administrator or serving as acting City Administrator during a vacancy in the office of another employee of the City of Lewiston designated by the City Administrator, the superintendent and the president of the Auburn Sewerage District and the City Manager or acting City Manager of the City of Auburn or the Assistant City Manager, if designated by the City Manager or serving as acting City Manager during a vacancy in the office of another employee of the City of Auburn designated by the City Manager, are members of the board by virtue of their respective offices. If the president of the Auburn Sewerage District Trustees declines to serve or resigns as a member of the board of the authority, the president shall select another trustee to serve for the remainder of the term. Notice of the appointment must be given in writing by the clerk of the Auburn Sewerage District to the board of the authority. The Mayor of Lewiston shall appoint, subject to confirmation of the city council, a qualified voter of the City of Lewiston to serve for a 2-year term on the board of the authority and thereafter until a successor takes office. In the event that either the Lewiston resident so selected or the appointee of the president of the Auburn Sewerage District ceases to be a resident of that person's respective city, or dies, becomes incapacitated, or otherwise ceases to be a member of the Auburn Sewerage District Trustees, or if the president of the Auburn Sewerage District dies or becomes incapacitated while serving on the board of the authority, a successor must be elected to serve out the remainder of the term by the Mayor and City Council of Lewiston or the Auburn Sewerage District Trustees, as the case may be.

See title page for effective date.

#### CHAPTER 28

#### H.P. 1414 - L.D. 1910

#### An Act To Allow the Town of Fort Kent To Create a Downtown Tax Increment Financing District Using the Current Assessed Value of the Downtown

**Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until

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90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Town of Fort Kent has suffered a disastrous fire resulting in the destruction of 20% of its downtown; and

Whereas, the Town of Fort Kent desires to take immediate steps to prepare a tax increment financing proposal to redevelop its downtown; 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. Authorization to adjust original assessed value. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5222, subsection 13, the Town of Fort Kent may define "original assessed value" for the downtown tax increment financing district it designates between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013 as the assessed value of the district as of April 1, 2012.

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

Effective April 17, 2012.