

# LAWS

### **OF THE**

## **STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 5, 2012 to July 10, 2013

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS OCTOBER 9, 2013

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

Augusta, Maine 2013

intendent of Insurance that they are jointly and severally liable for the obligations of the protected cell and are subject to the jurisdiction of the superintendent and courts of the State for the enforcement of those obligations.

(10) Any disputes between self-insured members, the self-insurance reinsurance account and any protected cell, including but not limited to any dispute arising out of or relating to any enforcement order or mechanism imposed by the Superintendent of Insurance, must be resolved in this State and pursuant to the laws of this State.

**Sec. 2. 39-A MRSA §403**, **sub-§9**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 398, §4, is further amended to read:

9. Acceptable deposit funds or investments for trust funds. In addition to cash, the deposit funds or permissible investments for trust funds acceptable to the Superintendent of Insurance as a security deposit are bonds, notes and bills that are issued by and are the direct obligation of the United States Treasury; the direct obligations of the following United States Government agencies: the Government National Mortgage Association; the Federal Home Loan Bank; the Federal Farm Credit Bank; the Student Loan Marketing Association; and the Federal National Mortgage Association; the direct obligations of any state of the United States or any subdivision of any state to which are pledged the full faith and credit of the state or subdivision, the unsecured debt of which is rated "A" or better by Standard and Poor's Corporation or the rating equivalent of Moody's Investors Service, Inc., Fitch Investors Service, Inc. or any other nationally recognized statistical rating agency; commercial paper rated as either "A-1" or "P-1" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., Standard and Poor's Corporation or the rating equivalent of Fitch Investors Service, Inc. or any other nationally recognized statistical rating agency; money market funds rated "Aam" or "AAm-G" or better by Standard and Poor's Corporation or the rating equivalent of any other nationally recognized statistical rating agency; certificates of deposit issued by a duly chartered commercial bank or thrift institution in the State protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation if such a the bank or institution possesses assets of at least \$100,000,000 and maintains a ratio of capital to assets equal to or greater than 6 1/2%; savings certificates issued by any savings and loan association in the State protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation if such an association possesses assets of at least \$100,000,000 and maintains a ratio of capital to assets equal to or greater than 6 1/2%: corporate bonds rated "Aaa," "Aa1" or "Aa2" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or rated "AAA," "AA+" or "AA" by Standard and Poor's Corporation, or the rating equivalent of Fitch Investors Service, Inc. or any

other nationally recognized statistical agency, in an amount not to exceed 20% of the total investment portfolio; bonds that are issued by United States corporations, corporations acceptable to the superintendent or United States public entities and that are rated or better by Standard and Poor's Corporation, or the rating equivalent of Moody's Investors Service, Inc., Fitch Investors Service, Inc. or any other nationally recognized statistical agency; and such other investments specifically approved by the superintendent. If an investment is downgraded so that it no longer meets the requirements of this subsection, its value may not be considered in determining whether a deposit or trust has surplus available for distribution, and the superintendent has discretion to discount or disallow the value of the investment for purposes of determining whether additional security is required.

Investments must be diversified in a prudent manner to ensure that funds are maintained at a sufficient level to discharge workers' compensation obligations incurred by the employer pursuant to this Title as those obligations become due and payable. At least 30% of the portfolio must consist of cash, direct obligations of the United States Treasury, commercial paper, money market funds or certificates of deposit. No more than 5% of the portfolio, other than cash and direct obligations of the United States, may be concentrated in a single issuer, and the superintendent shall establish standards to limit concentration in a single industry or market sector.

See title page for effective date.

### CHAPTER 173 H.P. 520 - L.D. 769

#### An Act To Create Fairness in Political Party Enrollment Deadlines

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

**Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §144, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 1995, c. 459, §16, is further amended to read:

**3.** Restrictions during change of enrollment. Except as provided in subsection 4, a voter may not vote at a caucus, convention or primary election for 15 days after filing an application to change enrollment. A <u>Notwithstanding subsection 4, a</u> voter must file an application to change enrollment prior to January 1st to be eligible to file a petition as a candidate in that election year.

**Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §144, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

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4. Change of residence. When a voter changes his residence from one municipality to another and establishes a new voting residence there, he that voter may enroll in any party and vote at a caucus, convention or primary election, or file a petition as a candidate for nomination by primary election, regardless of his that voter's previous enrollment.

See title page for effective date.

#### **CHAPTER 174**

#### H.P. 867 - L.D. 1228

#### An Act To Establish Municipal **Cost Components for Unorganized Territory** Services To Be Rendered in Fiscal Year 2013-14

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

Whereas, prompt determination and certification of the municipal cost components in the Unorganized Territory Tax District are necessary to the establishment of a mill rate and the levy of the Unorganized Territory Educational and Services Tax; 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. Municipal cost components for services rendered. In accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 115, the Legislature determines that the net municipal cost component for services and reimbursements to be rendered in fiscal year 2013-14 is as follows:

Audit - Fiscal Administration	\$212,810
Education	12,069,217
Forest Fire Protection	150,000
Human Services - General Assistance	55,750
Property Tax Assessment - Operations	948,231

#### PUBLIC LAW, C. 174

Maine Land Use Planning	528,612
Commission - Operations	

TOTAL STATE AGENCIES	\$13,964,620
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County Reimbursements for Services:

Aroostook	\$1.025.114
	\$1,025,114
Franklin	1,258,685
Hancock	160,407
Kennebec	10,056
Oxford	877,519
Penobscot	996,500
Piscataquis	887,371
Somerset	1,412,944
Washington	812,645

#### TOTAL COUNTY SERVICES \$7,441,241

COUNTY TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRIBUTIONS FROM FUND

Tax Increment Financing Payments	\$3,510,000
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS	\$24,915,860
COMPUTATION OF ASSESSMENT	
Requirements	\$24,915,860
Less Deductions:	
General -	
State Revenue Sharing	\$0
Homestead Reimbursement	90,300
Miscellaneous Revenues	75,000
Transfer from undesignated fund balance	2,750,000
TOTAL GENERAL DEDUCTIONS	\$2,915,300
Educational -	
Land Reserved Trust	\$73,400
Tuition/Travel	119,000
Miscellaneous	17,500
Special - Teacher Retirement	191,900
TOTAL EDUCATION DEDUCTIONS	\$401,800