

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 3, 2014 to July 16, 2015**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2015**

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

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2015**

with and incidental to the rental of covered rental equipment as defined in section 3043, subsection 1, paragraph B shall obtain a limited insurance producer license under this chapter, and at least one employee at each office of the rental company located in the State shall obtain a limited insurance producer license.

**Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §1420-F, sub-§1, ¶K,** as enacted by PL 2001, c. 259, §24, is amended to read:

K. Automobile mechanical breakdown contracts, which are a limited line; ~~and~~

**Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §1420-F, sub-§1, ¶L,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 51, §3, is amended to read:

L. Insurance offered, sold or solicited in connection with and incidental to the rental of rental cars for a period of no more than 60 days, whether at the rental office or by preselection of coverage in master, corporate, group or individual agreements, that is nontransferable, applies only to the rental car that is the subject of the rental agreement and is limited to the following kinds of insurance:

- (1) Personal accident insurance for renters and other rental car occupants for accidental death or dismemberment and for medical expenses resulting from an accident that occurs with the rental car during the rental period;
- (2) Liability insurance that provides protection to the renters and other authorized drivers of a rental car for liability arising from the operation or use of the rental car during the rental period;
- (3) Personal effects insurance that provides coverage to renters and other vehicle occupants for loss of, or damage to, personal effects in the rental car during the rental period;
- (4) Roadside assistance and emergency sickness protection insurance; and
- (5) Any other coverage designated by the superintendent; ~~and~~

**Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA §1420-F, sub-§1, ¶M** is enacted to read:

M. Insurance offered, sold or solicited in connection with and incidental to the rental of covered rental equipment, as defined in section 3043, insuring against the loss of or damage to that equipment.

**Sec. 5. 24-A MRSA §1420-H, sub-§3, ¶D,** as enacted by PL 2001, c. 259, §24, is amended to read:

D. An applicant for a license as a limited insurance producer who solicits or sells mechanical breakdown insurance; ~~or~~

**Sec. 6. 24-A MRSA §1420-H, sub-§3, ¶E,** as amended by PL 2007, c. 51, §4, is further amended to read:

E. An applicant for a license as a limited insurance producer employed by a motor vehicle rental company who solicits or sells insurance in connection with and incidental to the rental of a motor vehicle for a period not to exceed 60 days in accordance with section 1420-F, subsection 1, paragraph L; or

**Sec. 7. 24-A MRSA §1420-H, sub-§3, ¶F** is enacted to read:

F. An applicant for a license as a limited insurance producer employed by an equipment rental company who solicits or sells insurance in connection with and incidental to the rental of covered rental equipment in accordance with section 1420-F, subsection 1, paragraph M.

**Sec. 8. 24-A MRSA §3043** is enacted to read:

**§3043. Coverage for rental equipment permitted**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Covered rental agreement" means a written agreement with a term of 30 continuous days or fewer setting forth the terms and conditions governing the use of covered rental equipment provided by a rental company.

B. "Covered rental equipment" means equipment rented pursuant to a covered rental agreement for personal or household purposes.

C. "Rental company" means a person or organization, including a franchisee, in the business of renting equipment to the public.

**2. Coverage for rental equipment permitted.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Title, a rental company may offer for sale an insurance policy insuring against the loss of or damage to covered rental equipment under a covered rental agreement.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 78**

**H.P. 139 - L.D. 181**

**An Act To Create Efficiencies  
in Court Process**

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

**Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §8-C** is enacted to read:

**§8-C. Rules concerning electronic records and filing**

**1. Rules and orders; processes and procedures.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Supreme Judicial Court may adopt rules and issue orders to permit or require the use of electronic forms, filings, records, e-mail and electronic signatures whenever paper forms, filings, records, written notice, postal mail and written signatures are required for judicial, legal or any other court-related process under the Maine Revised Statutes.

The Supreme Judicial Court, by rule, may determine any other processes or procedures appropriate to ensure adequate preservation, disposition, integrity, security, appropriate accessibility and confidentiality of the electronic records.

**2. Electronic signatures.** An electronic signature may be accepted as a substitute for and, if accepted, has the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature. The Supreme Judicial Court shall determine the type of electronic signature required, the manner and format in which the signature is affixed to the electronic record and the criteria that must be met by a party, including attorneys, filing a document.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 79**

**H.P. 265 - L.D. 399**

**An Act To Establish a Youth Bear Hunting Day**

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

**Whereas,** the long-term health of Maine's hunting tradition is dependent on the recruitment of young hunters, the number of which has been on the decline; and

**Whereas,** providing positive hunting opportunities for young hunters is essential to ensuring their long-term participation in the sport; and

**Whereas,** allowing youth to hunt bear on a day before other bear hunters are in the field will provide a positive hunting experience; and

**Whereas,** as August 31, 2015 is the opening day for hunting bear with a firearm, this Act must take effect before that date to establish a youth bear hunting day this year; 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. 12 MRSA §11251, sub-§2** is enacted to read:

**2. Youth bear hunting day.** There is a youth hunting day for hunting bear without a dog or dogs on the Saturday prior to the opening day of the bear hunting season established under subsection 1, paragraph A. A person who holds a valid junior hunting license may hunt bear with a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow during youth bear hunting day. An adult supervisor, parent or guardian accompanying a youth on youth bear hunting day may not possess a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow while the youth is participating in the bear hunt.

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

Effective May 15, 2015.

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**CHAPTER 80**

**S.P. 364 - L.D. 1038**

**An Act To Amend the Emergency Rule-making Authority of the Department of Marine Resources**

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6171, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 1977, c. 661, §5, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**3. Emergency rules.** The commissioner may adopt or amend rules under the emergency procedures provided in Title 5, chapter 375 in the following circumstances:

A. Immediate action is necessary to protect or conserve any marine organism from unusual damage or imminent depletion;

B. An unusually large concentration of fishermen might deplete the supply of any marine organism;  
or

C. Immediate action is necessary to comply with changes to federal or interstate fisheries management plans.

See title page for effective date.