

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.

Augusta, Maine
2015

When a vehicle has been removed pursuant to paragraph C, the vehicle may be released only after the tolls, fees and penalties have been paid and the vehicle's registration has been reinstated or the owner's right to operate the vehicle has been restored.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 160

S.P. 219 - L.D. 626

An Act Regarding Write-in Candidates in Municipal and City Elections

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2501, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Determining and counting write-in votes. A municipality may choose the method of determining and counting write-in votes according to this subsection. Once a municipality has voted to accept the option under this subsection, the option applies to all municipal elections until the municipal officers hold a public hearing and the legislative body of the municipality votes to rescind the option at least 90 days before the next election of candidates by secret ballot.

A. After the municipal officers hold a public hearing, at least 90 days prior to an election of candidates by secret ballot, the legislative body of a municipality may vote to be governed by the provisions of Title 21-A, section 696, subsection 2, paragraph C and Title 21-A, section 722-A. Votes for a write-in candidate are counted only if that candidate has filed a timely declaration of write-in candidacy with the municipal clerk in accordance with Title 21-A, section 722-A, except that votes for write-in candidates who have not filed a declaration of write-in candidacy must be counted if:

- (1) The printed ballot does not include a properly nominated candidate for the office; or
- (2) A properly nominated candidate for the office listed on the ballot withdraws from the race before or on election day.

B. In a municipality that has not voted under paragraph A to be governed by Title 21-A, section 696, subsection 2, paragraph C and Title 21-A, section 722-A, votes cast for write-in candidates must be counted if:

- (1) The printed ballot does not include a properly nominated candidate for the office;

(2) A properly nominated candidate for the office listed on the ballot withdraws from the race before or on election day; or

(3) The number of write-in votes for an office as determined by a machine count or initial hand count exceeds the number of votes in that count for a candidate printed on the ballot.

Votes for write-in candidates may be counted even if none of the criteria listed in subparagraphs (1) to (3) are met in a municipality that has not voted to be governed by Title 21-A, section 696, subsection 2, paragraph C and Title 21-A, section 722-A.

Nothing in this subsection requires a municipal clerk to count or tally write-in votes for a fictitious person, a deceased person or a person from outside the municipality when residency is a qualification of office or who is otherwise not qualified to be a candidate for the office for which the person is a write-in candidate.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 161

H.P. 323 - L.D. 484

An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Railroad Carrier Cargo

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶S, as amended by PL 2013, c. 518, §2, is further amended to read:

S. E-mail addresses obtained by a political subdivision of the State for the sole purpose of disseminating noninteractive notifications, updates and cancellations that are issued from the political subdivision or its elected officers to an individual or individuals that request or regularly accept these noninteractive communications; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶T, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 518, §3, is amended to read:

T. Records describing research for the development of processing techniques for fisheries, aquaculture and seafood processing or the design and operation of a depuration plant in the possession of the Department of Marine Resources; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 1 MRSA §402, sub-§3, ¶U is enacted to read:

U. Records provided by a railroad company describing hazardous materials transported by the railroad company in this State, the routes of haz-