

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

**CHAPTER 271
H.P. 658 - L.D. 955**

**An Act To Make Changes to
Laws Governing
Condominiums Regarding the
Display of Signs**

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §576, sub-§10, as enacted by PL 1965, c. 357, is amended to read:

10. Restrictions. Such restrictions on and requirements respecting the use and maintenance of the units and the use of the common areas and facilities not set forth in the declaration as are designed to prevent unreasonable interference with the use of their respective units and of the common areas and facilities by the several unit owners. An association of unit owners may not include in its bylaws or declaration, or any rule adopted pursuant to the bylaws or declaration, or any deed a restriction that prohibits a unit owner from displaying on that unit owner's private property a sign that supports or opposes a candidate for public office or a referendum question during the period from 6 weeks prior to the date that a primary or general election or special election is held regarding that candidate or referendum question to one week after the election for that political candidate or vote for that referendum question is held.

Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §1603-106, sub-§(c) is enacted to read:

(c) An association may not include in its bylaws or declaration, or any rule adopted pursuant to the bylaws or declaration, or any deed a restriction that prohibits a unit owner from displaying on that unit owner's unit a sign that supports or opposes a candidate for public office or a referendum question during the period from 6 weeks prior to the date that a primary or general election or special election is held regarding that candidate or referendum question to one week after the election for that political candidate or vote for that referendum question is held.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 272
H.P. 753 - L.D. 1092**

**An Act To Prevent Abusive
Debt Collection Practices**

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §11002, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Collection action. "Collection action" means a lawsuit or arbitration proceeding initiated to collect a debt from a consumer.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §11013, sub-§§6 to 8 are enacted to read:

6. Written requirement for payment schedule or settlement agreement. A debt collector may not enter into a payment schedule or settlement agreement regarding a debt unless the payment schedule or settlement agreement is either documented in open court, approved by the court and included in a court order or otherwise reduced to writing. If a payment schedule or settlement agreement is not included in a court order, the debt collector shall provide a written copy of the payment schedule or settlement agreement to the consumer within 10 business days of entering into the payment schedule or settlement agreement and the consumer need not make a payment on the payment schedule or settlement agreement until the written copy has been provided in accordance with this subsection.

7. Acting on time-barred debt. A debt collector may not initiate a collection action when the debt collector knows or reasonably should know that the collection action is barred by the limitations period as set forth in subsection 8.

8. Limitations period for debt collectors. A debt collector may not commence a collection action more than 6 years after the date of the consumer's last activity on the debt. This limitations period applies notwithstanding any other applicable statute of limitations, unless a shorter limitations period is provided under the laws of this State. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when the applicable limitations period expires, any subsequent payment toward, written or oral affirmation of or other activity on the debt does not revive or extend the limitations period.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 273
H.P. 895 - L.D. 1317**

**An Act To Provide Expedited
Court Review of Child
Visitation Provisions for
Military Personnel on Duty out
of State**

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §1768, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Military members; expedited enforcement of visitation provisions. Notwithstanding any other