

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 7, 2016 to August 2, 2017

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
NOVEMBER 1, 2017

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

Augusta, Maine
2017

that ~~no~~ a relative or other resource is not available to pay for the direct burial or cremation costs, but the decision must be rendered within 8 days after receiving an application. The father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, children or grandchildren, by consanguinity, ~~living within or owning real or tangible property within the State, or the spouse or registered domestic partner~~ are responsible for the burial or cremation costs of the eligible person in proportion to their respective abilities. When no legally liable relative possesses a financial capacity to pay either in lump sum or on an installment basis for the direct costs of a burial or cremation, the contribution of a municipality under this subsection is limited to a reasonable calculation of the funeral director's direct costs, less any and all contributions from any other source. For the purposes of this subsection, "registered domestic partner" means an individual registered as a domestic partner under section 2710, subsection 3.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 63

S.P. 208 - L.D. 593

An Act To Update the Licensure Renewal Provision of the Board of Licensure in Medicine

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §3280-A, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 526, §2 and affected by §4, is amended to read:

B. At least 60 days prior to expiration of a current license, the board shall ~~mail to notify~~ each licensee ~~at the licensee's last known address a notice of the requirement to renew the license with appropriate application forms for the renewal. Whenever a licensee fails, prior to the expiration of the licensee's current license, to return to the board a completed application either to renew the license or to withdraw from licensure, the board shall notify the licensee as soon as possible at the licensee's last known address that the license renewal is past due. Thirty days after the notice has been sent, if the application has neither been submitted by the licensee nor returned by the United States Postal Service as undeliverable, the board shall notify the licensee by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the licensee's license has been administratively suspended for 30 days. If an administratively complete relicensure application, pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph B, has not been submitted within the 30 day period of administrative suspension, the license immediately and automatically lapses. The board may not restore the license prior to completion of the rein-~~

~~statement proceedings pursuant to subsection 4. If an administratively complete license renewal application, as determined pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph B, has not been submitted prior to the expiration date of the existing license, the license immediately and automatically expires. A license may be reinstated within 90 days after the date of expiration upon payment of the renewal fee and late fee. If an administratively complete renewal application is not submitted within 90 days of the date of the expiration of the license, the license immediately and automatically lapses. The board may reinstate a license that has lapsed pursuant to subsection 4.~~

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 64

H.P. 271 - L.D. 365

An Act To Waive Background Checks for the Parent of a Child Who Is the Subject of an Adoption Proceeding

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

Sec. 1. 18-A MRSA §9-304, sub-§(a-1), as amended by PL 2013, c. 267, Pt. B, §12, is further amended to read:

(a-1). Upon the filing of a petition for adoption of a minor child, the court shall request a background check and shall direct the department or a licensed child-placing agency to conduct a study and make a report to the court.

(1). The study must include an investigation of the conditions and antecedents of the child to determine whether the child is a proper subject for adoption and whether the proposed home is suitable for the child. The department or licensed child-placing agency shall submit the report to the court within 60 days.

(i) If the court has a report that provides sufficient, current information, the court may waive the requirement of a study and report.

(ii) If the petitioner is a blood relative of the child, the court may waive the requirement of a study and report.

(2). The court shall request a background check for each prospective adoptive parent who is not the biological parent of the child. The background check must include a screening for child abuse cases in the records of the department and criminal history record information obtained from the Maine Criminal Justice Information System and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(i) The criminal history record information obtained from the Maine Criminal Justice Information System must include a record of public criminal history record information as defined in Title 16, section 703, subsection 8.

(ii) The criminal history record information obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation must include other state and national criminal history record information.

(iii) Each prospective parent who is not the biological parent of the child shall submit to having fingerprints taken. The State Police, upon receipt of the fingerprint card, may charge the court for the expenses incurred in processing state and national criminal history record checks. The State Police shall take or cause to be taken the applicant's fingerprints and shall forward the fingerprints to the State Bureau of Identification so that the bureau can conduct state and national criminal history record checks. Except for the portion of the payment, if any, that constitutes the processing fee charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, all money received by the State Police for purposes of this paragraph must be paid over to the Treasurer of State. The money must be applied to the expenses of administration incurred by the Department of Public Safety.

(iv) The subject of a Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history record check may obtain a copy of the criminal history record check by following the procedures outlined in 28 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 16.32 and 16.33. The subject of a state criminal history record check may inspect and review the criminal history record information pursuant to Title 16, section 709.

(v) State and federal criminal history record information may be used by the court for the purpose of screening prospective adoptive parents in determining whether the adoption is in the best interests of the child.

(vi) Information obtained pursuant to this paragraph is confidential. The results of background checks received by the court are for official use only and may not be disseminated outside the court except as required under Title 22, section 4011-A.

(vii) The expense of obtaining the information required by this paragraph is incorporated in the adoption filing fee established in section 9-301. The Probate Court shall collect the total fee and transfer the appropriate funds to the Department of Public Safety and the department.

The court may waive the background check of a prospective adoptive parent if a previous background check was completed by a court or by the department under this subsection within a reasonable period of time and the court is satisfied that nothing new that would be included in the background check has transpired since the last background check.

This subsection does not authorize the court to request a background check for the biological parent who is also the current legal parent of the child.

Sec. 2. 18-A MRSA §9-304, sub-§(a-2), as amended by PL 2013, c. 267, Pt. B, §13, is further amended to read:

(a-2). The department may, pursuant to rules adopted by the department, at any time before the filing of the petition for adoption, conduct background checks for each prospective adoptive parent of a minor child in its custody.

(1). The department may request a background check for each prospective adoptive parent who is not the biological parent of the child. The background check must include criminal history record information obtained from the Maine Criminal Justice Information System and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(i) The criminal history record information obtained from the Maine Criminal Justice Information System must include a record of public criminal history record information as defined in Title 16, section 703, subsection 8.

(ii) The criminal history record information obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation must include other state and national criminal history record information.

(iii) Each prospective parent who is not the biological parent of the child shall submit to having fingerprints taken. The State Police, upon receipt of the fingerprint card, may charge the department for the expenses incurred in processing state and national criminal history record checks. The State Police shall take or cause to be taken the applicant's fingerprints and shall forward the fingerprints to the State Bureau of Identification so that the bureau can conduct state and national criminal history record checks. Except for the portion of the payment, if any, that constitutes the processing fee charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, all money received by the State Police for purposes of this paragraph must be paid over to the Treasurer of State. The money must be applied to the expenses of administration incurred by the Department of Public Safety.

(iv) The subject of a Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history record check may obtain a copy of the criminal history record check by following the procedures outlined in 28 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 16.32 and 16.33. The subject of a state criminal history record check may inspect and review the criminal history record information pursuant to Title 16, section 709.

(v) State and federal criminal history record information may be used by the department for the purpose of screening prospective adoptive parents in determining whether the adoption is in the best interests of the child.

(vi) Information obtained pursuant to this paragraph is confidential. The results of background checks received by the department are for official use only and may not be disseminated outside the department except to a court considering an adoption petition under subsection (a-1).

(2). Rules adopted by the department pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 65

S.P. 57 - L.D. 138

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Sex Offender Registry

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

Sec. 1. 34-A MRSA §11273, sub-§14, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 663, §3, is amended to read:

A. Title 17-A, chapter 11 including the following:

(1) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph C, regardless of the age of the victim;

(2) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph F-2, regardless of the age of the victim;

(3) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph G, regardless of the age of the victim;

(3-A) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph K, regardless of the age of the victim if the crime is committed on or after October 1, 2017;

(4) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph Q, regardless of the age of the victim;

(5) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph W, regardless of the age of the victim; and

(6) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph X, regardless of the age of the victim;

Sec. 2. 34-A MRSA §11273, sub-§15, ¶A, as amended by PL 2015, c. 280, §10, is further amended to read:

A. Title 17-A, chapter 11 including the following:

(1) Title 17-A, section 253, subsection 2, paragraph J, regardless of the age of the victim;

(1-A) Title 17-A, section 253, subsection 2, paragraph F, regardless of the age of the victim if the crime is committed on or after October 1, 2017;

(2) Title 17-A, section 253, subsection 2, paragraph K, regardless of the age of the victim;

(3) Title 17-A, section 253, subsection 2, paragraph L, regardless of the age of the victim;

(4) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph J, regardless of the age of the victim;

(4-A) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph L, regardless of the age of the victim if the crime is committed on or after October 1, 2017;

(5) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph R-1, regardless of the age of the victim;

(6) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph R-2, regardless of the age of the victim; and

(7) Title 17-A, section 258, subsection 1-A, if the victim had not attained 12 years of age;

See title page for effective date.