MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION June 19, 2018 to September 13, 2018

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR SECOND SPECIAL SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS DECEMBER 13, 2018

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 5, 2018 to June 20, 2019

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

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

Augusta, Maine 2019

| GENERAL FUND All Other | 2017-18 \$0 | 2018-19 \$97,500 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | \$0 | \$97,500 |
| HIGHWAY FUND All Other | 2017-18 \$0 | 2018-19 \$52,500 |
| HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL | \$0 | \$52,500 |
| PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF | | |
| DEPARTMENT TOTALS | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
| GENERAL FUND | \$0 | \$97,500 |
| HIGHWAY FUND | \$0 | \$52,500 |
| DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS | \$0 | \$150,000 |

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 469 H.P. 1363 - L.D. 1918

An Act To Authorize the Installation of a Gold Star Family Memorial in Capitol Park

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

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §902, sub-§1-C is enacted to read:

1-C. Gold star family memorial. Notwithstanding section 902-A, subsection 2, paragraph B, the commission may arrange for and oversee the development and installation of a monument honoring gold star families.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 470 S.P. 756 - L.D. 1922

An Act To Amend the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4003, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1999, c. 731, Pt. AA, §3, is further amended to read:

3. Rehabilitation and reunification. Give family rehabilitation and reunification priority Require that reasonable efforts be made to rehabilitate and reunify families as a means for protecting the welfare of children, but prevent needless delay for permanent plans for children when rehabilitation and reunification is not possible;

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 471 S.P. 758 - L.D. 1923

An Act To Improve the Child Welfare System

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

Whereas, maintaining a sufficient number of qualified foster homes provides a critical safety net for vulnerable children; and

Whereas, recruitment and retention of highly qualified child welfare staff will allow for more timely and thorough investigations of allegations of abuse and neglect; and

Whereas, a new comprehensive child welfare information system will make more information available in a timely manner, which will allow for better outcomes for children; and

Whereas, this legislation provides funding necessary to enhance the child welfare system and services available to children in the care of the State; 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. Rate increase for foster homes. The daily rates for foster homes must be increased as follows: Unlicensed Homes must be increased from \$10.00 to \$18.50, Level A Licensed Homes must be increased from \$16.50 to \$25.00, Level B Licensed Homes must be increased from \$26.25 to \$35.00, Level C Licensed Homes must be increased from \$39.38 to \$45.00, Level D Licensed Homes must be increased from \$52.50 to \$60.00, Level E Licensed Homes must