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

- D. Prior or current service in the military; and
- 7. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives with experience in:
 - A. Membership on a licensing or certification board;
 - B. Work at an educational institution with programming that results in licensing or certification;
 - C. Work in the field of human resources; or
 - D. Prior or current service in the military; and be it further
- **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first appointed Senate member is the Senate chair and the first appointed House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission; and be it further
- Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business; and be it further
- **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall:
- 1. Identify workforce needs in the State that could be met by the recruitment of veterans and service members who are transitioning out of the military;
- 2. Identify similarities and differences between military occupational specialty training and state licensing and certification requirements for those fields of work identified by the commission;
- 3. Address barriers commonly encountered by transitioning service members and veterans by:
 - A. Assisting civilian licensing boards in recognizing the military documentation of veterans' training and experience;
 - B. Developing strategies to prevent duplicative training requirements for attaining relevant licensure or certification; and
 - C. Streamlining the administrative rules and processes within civilian licensing and certification systems that create barriers for veterans to obtain licensure or certification; and
- 4. Develop strategies to accelerate veterans' licensure and certification by:

- A. Assessing the equivalency of military training courses and using official documentation to permit veterans with fully or partially equivalent training and experience either to sit for civilian licensure examinations or to be licensed by endorsement:
- B. Addressing training gaps by working with educational institutions to set up accelerated programs for veterans that bridge training gaps, provide veterans advanced standing in existing programs or offer bridge courses that prepare veterans to enter existing programs;
- C. Addressing administrative or process challenges by assessing any non-skill-related licensing or certification requirements that might place veterans at a disadvantage, such as fees or length of experience; and
- D. Taking steps to make civilian employment pathways friendlier to veterans through concerted outreach to both veterans and prospective employers; and be it further
- **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further
- Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 15, 2018, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to both the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development and the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development and the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature based upon the report.

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

Effective August 2, 2017.

CHAPTER 28 S.P. 426 - L.D. 1263

Resolve, To Increase the Affordability of Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families

Sec. 1. Funds for well water treatment. Resolved: That the Maine State Housing Authority shall distribute funds under section 3 to increase the affordability of water treatment filtration systems for households with contaminated private drinking water wells and household incomes no greater than 120% of

the area median income, as determined by the authority.

For the purposes of this resolve, "contaminated" means that the level of microorganisms, disinfectants, disinfection by-products, inorganic chemicals, organic chemicals or radionuclides exceeds maximum contaminant levels for public water systems established by the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 141. For the purposes of this resolve, "private drinking water well" has the same meaning as in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1392, subsection 8; and be it further

- **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than January 1, 2019, the Maine State Housing Authority shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing and economic development matters describing how many contaminated wells were treated using funds provided pursuant to this resolve to organizations and agencies and the Maine State Housing Authority's home repair program; and be it further
- **Sec. 3. Transfer. Resolved:** That the State Controller shall transfer \$500,000 by June 30, 2018 from the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Health and Human Services to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund; and be it further
- Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE

Housing Authority - State 0442

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for grants or loans to assist households with the purchase and associated costs of well water treatment systems. Up to \$50,000 of the funds may be used for targeted outreach and marketing to connect households with contaminated well water with appropriate professional services for assessing and installing well water treatment systems. Up to 15% of the funds may be used for program administration. Funds may be used to assist individuals who demonstrate need but do not meet the eligibility criteria within the Maine State Housing Authority's home repair program in testing their private well water or in purchasing well water treatment systems.

GENERAL FUND	2017-18	2018-19
All Other	\$500,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$500,000	\$0

See title page for effective date.