

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

2. Committees; corporations; associations. A political committee, political action committee, other committee, firm, partnership, corporation, association or organization may not make contributions to a candidate in support of the candidacy of one person aggregating more than \$1,500 in any election for a gubernatorial candidate, more than \$350 for a legislative candidate, more than ~~\$350~~ **\$500** for a candidate for municipal office and beginning January 1, 2012 ~~more than \$750 for a candidate for municipal office or~~ more than \$750 in any election for any other candidate. Beginning December 1, 2010, contribution limits in accordance with this subsection are adjusted every 2 years based on the Consumer Price Index as reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest amount divisible by \$25. The commission shall post the current contribution limit and the amount of the next adjustment and the date that it will become effective on its publicly accessible website and include this information with any publication to be used as a guide for candidates.

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2020.

Effective January 1, 2020.

CHAPTER 52

H.P. 129 - L.D. 147

An Act To Extend Internet Availability in Rural Maine

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

Whereas, this legislation authorizes the use of funds in the telecommunications education access fund to support mobile Internet access technology; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order for this funding to be available as soon as possible; 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. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§4, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 409, §2, is amended to read:

B. Internet access, including mobile Internet access through a portable wireless access point, or

hotspot, that provides Internet access over a cellular network;

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§5, ¶G, as amended by PL 2001, c. 522, §2, is further amended to read:

G. To provide for the establishment of computer technology training programs in schools to provide training to students in areas such as, but not limited to, electronic commerce, Internet proficiency and World Wide Web-enabled systems; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§5, ¶H, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 522, §2, is amended to read:

H. To provide for electronic database content to be used for the purposes of accessing information by schools and libraries; ~~and~~

Sec. 4. 35-A MRSA §7104-B, sub-§5, ¶I is enacted to read:

I. To provide, within existing resources, support for qualified libraries in rural areas of the State with greatest need, as determined in consultation with the State Librarian, the Commissioner of Education and the ConnectME Authority, to offer portable wireless access points, or hotspots, for mobile Internet access.

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

Effective April 23, 2019.

CHAPTER 53

H.P. 284 - L.D. 375

An Act To Promote the Forest Products Industry in School Construction and Renovation Involving Heating Systems

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15908-B is enacted to read:

§15908-B. Heating systems

In approving school construction projects, the state board shall ensure that school administrative units have considered heating systems that use renewable, locally sourced wood-based fuels and that benefit the State's economy and reduce carbon dioxide emissions in all planning and design for new or substantially renovated schools or school buildings subject to state board approval.

As used in this section, "substantially renovated" has the same meaning as in section 15908-A, subsection 1.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 54

H.P. 130 - L.D. 167

An Act To Prevent Food Shaming in Maine's Public Schools

Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, 2/3 of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 223, sub-c. 11 is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER 11

FOOD RIGHTS

§6681. Access to food and use of food discipline

This section governs student access to and school use of food, including as a disciplinary tool, in public schools.

1. Serving of reimbursable meals. A public school that provides free and reduced-price meals or other meals to students pursuant to subchapter 7 or otherwise provides to students meals eligible for reimbursement under a program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture shall provide such a meal to a student who requests the meal and is otherwise eligible for the meal regardless of the student's inability to pay for the school meal or failure in the past to pay for school meals.

2. Punishment related to meals. A public school may not:

A. Because of a student's inability to pay for a meal or because of any payments due for meals served previously to the student, require the student:

(1) To throw away a meal after it has been served to the student; or

(2) To undertake chores or work as a means of paying for one or more meals or as punishment for not paying for one or more meals;
or

B. Refuse a meal to a student as a form of or as part of a disciplinary action.

3. Stigmatization. A public school may not openly identify or otherwise stigmatize a student who cannot pay for a meal or who has payments due for previous meals.

4. Required communications. A public school's communications about a student's meal debts must be made to the parent or guardian of the student rather than to the student directly except that, if a student inquires about that student's meal debt, the school may answer the student's inquiry. A public school may ask a student to carry to the student's parent or guardian a letter regarding the student's meal debt.

5. Debt collection; best practices. The department shall develop guidance for school administrative units relating to the collection of student meal debt, including, but not limited to, best practices and information on how to create an online system for the payment of student meal debt. The department shall post the information under this subsection on its publicly accessible website.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 55

S.P. 86 - L.D. 274

An Act To Allow the Sale of Ethanol-free Gasoline Statewide

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §585-N, as amended by PL 2013, c. 453, §1, is further amended to read:

§585-N. Reformulated gasoline

Beginning June 1, 2015, a retailer who sells gasoline in York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Knox or Lincoln County may sell only reformulated gasoline in those counties.

This section is repealed November 1, 2020.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 56

S.P. 45 - L.D. 158

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Beano

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