

# 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

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

Augusta, Maine 2019

#### FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 2019

ment shall seek to identify alternative means to achieve the purposes of this section.

5. Reports. By January 1, 2021 and annually thereafter, the department shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters on the number of schools tested for lead, whether the department issued specific guidance to any schools to reduce exposure to lead, the number of schools that engaged in abatement or mitigation and the methods of abatement or mitigation used.

**Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §6006-F, sub-§3, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 389, §1, is further amended to read:

A. To make loans to school administrative units for school repair and renovation.

(1) The following repair and renovation needs receive Priority 1 status:

(a) Repair or replacement of a roof on a school building;

(b) Bringing a school building into compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 United States Code, Section 12101 et seq.;

(c) Improving air quality in a school building;

(d) Removing or abating hazardous materials in a school building, including, but not limited to, water lead abatement or mitigation pursuant to Title 22, section 2604-B; and

(f) Undertaking other health, safety and compliance repairs, including installations or improvements necessary to increase school facility security.

(2) Repairs and improvements related to a school building structure, windows and doors and water or septic systems, other than water lead abatement or mitigation pursuant to Title 22, section 2604-B, receive Priority 2 status.

(3) Repairs and improvements related to energy and water conservation receive Priority 3 status.

(4) Upgrades of learning spaces in school buildings receive Priority 4 status.

(5) The Commissioner of Education may approve other necessary repairs;

**Sec. 3. Rules.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall provisionally adopt rules to implement the lead testing requirements under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 2604-B and submit those rules to the Legislature for review no later than

5:00 p.m. on January 10, 2020. In adopting rules to implement Title 22, section 2604-B, the department shall consider the United States Environmental Protection Agency's recommendations contained in the most recent version of the document titled "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities."

See title page for effective date.

#### CHAPTER 159

#### S.P. 247 - L.D. 811

#### An Act To Provide Additional Flexibility in the Municipal Property Tax Assistance Programs for Seniors

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

**Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6232, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 395, §4, is amended to read:

The legislative body of a municipality may by ordinance adopt a program to provide benefits to persons with homesteads in the municipality. A municipality may choose to restrict the program to persons who <del>are</del> at least meet minimum age requirements as long as the minimum is not less than 62 years of age.

**Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §6232, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 635, §1, is further amended to read:

**1. Conditions of program.** Except as provided in subsection 1-A, a program adopted under this section must:

A. Require that the claimant has <u>maintained</u> a homestead in the municipality <u>for a certain period</u> of time, as determined by the municipality;

B. Provide benefits for both owners and renters of homesteads; and

C. Calculate benefits in a way that provides greater benefits proportionally to claimants with lower incomes in relation to their property taxes accrued or rent constituting property taxes accrued.

A program adopted under this section may impose additional standards of eligibility and procedures, as long as those standards are established by the municipality by ordinance.

See title page for effective date.