

# 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.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2019**

**CHAPTER 193  
H.P. 224 - L.D. 300**

**An Act To Provide School  
Personnel Paid Hourly a Wage  
Pay Option**

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

**Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §621-A, sub-§4**, as amend-  
ed by PL 2001, c. 156, §1, is further amended to read:

**4. School personnel.** Employees of a school  
administrative unit who work the school year schedule  
may, upon written agreement between the employees  
and the school administrative unit, be paid for their  
work during the school year over 12 months or a  
shorter period, as provided in the written agreement.  
For purposes of this subsection, "written agreement"  
includes but is not limited to a collective bargaining  
agreement. A school administrative unit shall provide  
a wage payment option to school personnel who are  
paid on an hourly basis that allows those employees to  
be paid for their work during the school year over 12  
months or a shorter period.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 194  
S.P. 136 - L.D. 458**

**An Act To Require Motorists  
To Yield to Transit Buses**

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

**Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2053, sub-§9** is enacted  
to read:

**9. Yield to transit buses.** An operator of a vehi-  
cle on a public way that has a maximum speed limit of  
35 miles per hour or less shall yield the right-of-way to  
a transit bus traveling in the same direction as the ve-  
hicle if:

A. The transit bus is equipped with a yield sign  
on the left side of the rear of the transit bus that il-  
luminates to signal the transit bus is reentering the  
traffic flow; and

B. The driver of the transit bus has illuminated  
the yield sign and has activated a turn signal to  
reenter the traffic flow from a bus stop or shoulder  
on a roadway.

For purposes of this subsection, "transit bus" means a  
bus operated or contracted by the State, a municipality  
or other political subdivision for the purpose of trans-  
porting members of the public from one destination to  
another but does not include a school bus.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 195  
S.P. 182 - L.D. 595**

**An Act To Amend the Laws  
Governing the Unlawful  
Cutting of Trees**

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

**Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§3, ¶B**, as re-  
pealed and replaced by PL 2015, c. 241, §1, is amend-  
ed to read:

~~B. Except within areas that have been zoned for  
residential use, for~~ For lost trees the owner may  
choose to claim:

- (1) The market value of the lost trees;
- (2) The diminution in value of the real estate  
as a whole resulting from the violation;
- (3) The forfeiture amounts determined in Ti-  
tle 17, section 2510, subsections 2 and 3; ~~or~~
- (4) If the lost trees are ornamental or fruit  
trees, the costs of replacing, replanting and  
restoring the trees with trees of comparable  
size and the same or equivalent species and  
the actual costs for cleanup of damage caused  
during the cutting; or
- (5) If the lost trees are located within 400  
feet of a dwelling, the costs of replacing, re-  
planting and restoring the trees with trees of  
comparable size and the same or equivalent  
species and the actual costs for cleanup of  
damage caused during the cutting.

In addition, the owner's damages for lost trees that  
are not ornamental or fruit trees or trees located  
within 400 feet of a dwelling may include the  
costs for regeneration of the stand in accordance  
with Title 12, section 8869.

The court may reduce the damages awarded for  
good cause shown when the cutting of trees was  
done negligently or without fault.

Public utilities, as defined in Title 35-A, section  
102, and contractors performing work for public  
utilities are not liable for damages under this par-  
agraph for lost trees the trimming or removal of  
which is necessary to provide safe and reliable  
service to the customers of the public utilities.

**Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §7552, sub-§3, ¶B-1**, as  
enacted by PL 2015, c. 241, §2, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.