

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

**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.

**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.

**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.