

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

If a member is absent for 2 consecutive meetings and has not been excused by the chair from either meeting, the committee may remove the member by majority vote.

2. Chair. The committee shall elect a chair from its members.

3. Duties; report. The committee shall meet at least 2 times per year to study and evaluate the effectiveness of family development accounts in this State and other states; make recommendations with respect to changes in law, rule or policy that will enhance the ability of account holders to improve their economic security; and advise the university, relevant state agencies, community development organizations and the Legislature as to its findings. The committee shall provide a comprehensive report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by March 1st of each year.

4. Freedom of access; confidential information. Meetings of the committee are public meetings and records and papers of the committee are public records for the purposes of the freedom of access laws in Title 1, chapter 13, subchapter 1, except that information obtained about account holders and their families that is confidential under state or federal law, rule or regulation is confidential and may not be disclosed.

5. Staffing. The university shall provide staffing to the committee and may, within existing resources, obtain technical assistance from appropriate sources with expertise in asset development for low-income households.

6. Voluntary service. Members of the committee serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses, except that members representing account holders may be reimbursed for expenses.

§10986. Support of advisory committee

The university shall provide support to the Advisory Committee on Family Development Accounts under section 10985, certify participating financial institutions and review proposals from community development organizations seeking to manage family development accounts.

Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §3769-D, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. RRRR, §4, is amended to read:

§3769-D. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant; family development accounts

In fiscal year 2016-17 and annually thereafter, the Department of Health and Human Services may use \$500,000 in funds provided under the Temporary As-

sistance for Needy Families block grant to promote financial literacy and healthy savings habits of families with income less than 200% of the federal poverty guidelines through the placement of funds in family development accounts established pursuant to Title ~~10~~ **20-A**, chapter ~~410~~ **412-B**, subchapter ~~4~~ **4-A**.

Sec. 6. Transition of family development account program. The following provisions govern the transition of the family development account program, referred to in this section as "the program," from the Finance Authority of Maine, referred to in this section as "FAME," to the University of Maine System, referred to in this section as "the university."

1. The university is the successor in every way to the powers, duties, responsibilities, programs, services and functions assigned to FAME in the administration of the program.

2. All rules of FAME, as they pertain to the administration of the program, that are in effect on the effective date of this Act remain in effect until rescinded, revised or amended.

3. All contracts, agreements and compacts of FAME, as they pertain to the powers, duties, responsibilities, programs, services and functions of the program that are in effect on the effective date of this Act remain in effect until the contracts, agreements and compacts expire or are altered by the parties involved in the contracts, agreements or compacts.

4. All records of FAME as they pertain to the powers, duties, responsibilities, programs, services and functions of FAME in the administration of the program are transferred to the university as necessary to implement the transition.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 240

H.P. 898 - L.D. 1237

An Act To Simplify Municipal Collective Bargaining by Removing the 120-Day Notice Required Prior to Certain Negotiations

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §965, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2009, c. 107, §5, is further amended to read:

1. Negotiations. It is the obligation of the public employer and the bargaining agent to bargain collectively. "Collective bargaining" means, for the purposes of this chapter, their mutual obligation:

A. To meet at reasonable times;

B. To meet within 10 days after receipt of written notice from the other party requesting a meeting for collective bargaining purposes, as long as the parties have not otherwise agreed in a prior written contract. This obligation is suspended during the period between a referendum approving a new regional school unit and the operational date of the regional school unit, as long as the parties meet at reasonable times during that period;

C. To confer and negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, working conditions and contract grievance arbitration, except that by such obligation neither party may be compelled to agree to a proposal or be required to make a concession and except that public employers of teachers shall meet and consult but not negotiate with respect to educational policies; for the purpose of this paragraph, educational policies may not include wages, hours, working conditions or contract grievance arbitration;

D. To execute in writing any agreements arrived at, the term of any such agreement to be subject to negotiation but may not exceed 3 years; and

E. To participate in good faith in the mediation, fact-finding and arbitration procedures required by this section.

~~Whenever wages, rates of pay or any other matter requiring appropriation of money by any municipality or county are included as a matter of collective bargaining conducted pursuant to this chapter, it is the obligation of the bargaining agent to serve written notice of request for collective bargaining on the public employer at least 120 days before the conclusion of the current fiscal operating budget, except that this requirement is waived in the event that a bargaining agent of a newly formed bargaining unit is recognized or certified during the period not more than 120 days nor less than 30 days prior to the end of the fiscal period. The 120 day notice requirement is also waived with respect to regional school units formed pursuant to Title 20-A, chapter 103-A, subchapter 2 prior to their first year of operation.~~

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 241
S.P. 382 - L.D. 1262**

**An Act To Allow Funds from
the Federal E-Rate Program
To Be Applied to Maine
Preschool Programs**

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1, sub-§23-A, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 141, §2, is amended to read:

23-A. Public preschool program. "Public preschool program" means a program offered by a public elementary school pursuant to chapter 203 that provides instruction to children who are 4 years of age, including but not limited to a Head Start program that is approved as a component of the public preschool program.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 242
S.P. 386 - L.D. 1266**

**An Act To Create
Transportation Corridor
Districts for the Purpose of
Funding Transportation and
Transit Services**

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3501, sub-§1, ¶¶C and D, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106 and amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, are further amended to read:

C. A municipality voting to provide mass transportation service without the creation of a district; and

D. A regional transportation corporation, except that sections 3510, 3512 and 3517 do not apply to a regional transportation corporation; and

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §3501, sub-§1, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. A transportation corridor district, except that section 3502, section 3505, section 3516, subsections 2 and 3 and section 3517 do not apply to a transportation corridor district.

Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §3501, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Transportation corridor district. "Transportation corridor district" means a specified area contiguous with a transportation route or facility that has been formed by a municipality or municipalities and approved by the voters as provided under section 3502-A.

Sec. 4. 30-A MRSA §3502-A is enacted to read: