

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

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2301, sub-§5-C is enacted to read:

5-C. School bus crossing arm. "School bus crossing arm" means a device mounted on the front bumper of a school bus that is no shorter than 70 inches and no longer than the width of the school bus and when activated extends outward in front of the school bus to require students who cross the roadway in front of the school bus to maintain a safe distance in front of the school bus.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2302, as amended by PL 2003, c. 293, §2, is further amended to read:

§2302. School bus markings; lights; mirrors; school bus crossing arms

1. Identifications. Each school bus:

A. Must be identified with the words, "school bus":

- (1) Printed in letters not less than 8 inches high; and
- (2) Located between the warning signal lamps as high as possible without impairing front and rear visibility of the lettering;

B. Must have no other lettering on the front or rear, except lettering not more than 4 inches high indicating an emergency exit and a bus number;

C. Must be painted national school bus glossy yellow, except that the hood may be lusterless black;

D. Must have bumpers of glossy black unless painting is impracticable through use of rubber, reflective material or other devices;

E. Must be equipped with a system of signal lights that conform to school bus requirements approved by the Commissioner of Education;

F. Must be equipped with a system of mirrors that give the seated operator a view of the way to each side of the bus, and of the area immediately in front of the front bumper;

G. May be equipped with a system of stop arms to be operated only with the red signal lights; and

H. May be equipped with reflective strips of national school bus yellow.

1-A. School bus crossing arms. A school bus of model year 2021 or newer must be equipped with a school bus crossing arm.

3. Other purposes. A school bus permanently converted wholly to other purposes must be painted a color other than national school bus glossy yellow and

have the words "school bus," school bus signal lights and stop arms removed.

4. Other passengers. A school bus operated on a public way and transporting passengers who do not include school-age persons must have the words "school bus" removed or concealed and the school bus signal lamps may not be operable.

5. Application. A vehicle operated on a public way displaying the words "school bus" or with the equipment required by this section may only be used to transport school-age persons, as defined in section 2301.

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

Effective June 20, 2019.

CHAPTER 414

H.P. 391 - L.D. 534

An Act To Make Ballot Questions Easier To Read and Understand for Maine Voters

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

Whereas, the ability of voters to make informed choices on ballot questions is essential for the proper functioning of the State's citizen democracy; and

Whereas, this Act makes necessary improvements to the process of presenting referendum questions to the voters; and

Whereas, it is possible that referenda may be sent to the voters before the 90-day period has expired; 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. 21-A MRSA §906, sub-§6, ¶¶B and C, as repealed and replaced by PL 1993, c. 352, §3, are amended to read:

B. The Secretary of State shall write the question in a ~~simple~~, clear, concise and direct manner that describes the subject matter of the people's veto or direct initiative as simply as is possible.

C. The question for a direct initiative must be phrased so that an affirmative vote is in favor of the people's veto or direct initiative.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §906, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Explanation of effect of "yes" or "no" vote. The Secretary of State shall include on the ballot for each referendum question those portions of the statement prepared by the Attorney General pursuant to Title 1, section 353 that describe what a "yes" vote favors and what a "no" vote opposes. These statements must appear directly below the relevant referendum question and above the place on the ballot for the voter to designate the voter's choice.

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

Effective June 20, 2019.

CHAPTER 415

H.P. 744 - L.D. 1002

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2021

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

Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until after the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

Whereas, certain obligations and expenses incident to the operation of state departments and institutions will become due and payable immediately; 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:

PART A

Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations.

In order to provide for the necessary expenditures of State Government and other purposes for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2021, the following sums as designated in the following tabulations are appropriated or allocated out of money not otherwise appropriated or allocated.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Budget - Bureau of the 0055

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

Table with 3 columns: HIGHWAY FUND, 2019-20, 2020-21. Rows include POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT, Personal Services, All Other, and HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL.

BUDGET - BUREAU OF THE 0055

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Table with 3 columns: HIGHWAY FUND, 2019-20, 2020-21. Rows include POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT, Personal Services, All Other, and HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL.

Buildings and Grounds Operations 0080

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

Table with 3 columns: HIGHWAY FUND, 2019-20, 2020-21. Rows include POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT, Personal Services, All Other, and HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS OPERATIONS 0080

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Table with 3 columns: HIGHWAY FUND, 2019-20, 2020-21.