

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

August 26, 2019

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

January 8, 2020 to March 17, 2020

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
NOVEMBER 25, 2019**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 16, 2020**

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

**Augusta, Maine
2020**

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§103 is enacted to read:

103. Nonprofit worldwide charitable organizations. Sales to a nonprofit community-based worldwide charitable organization that, using private funding, provides financial support to other nonprofit charitable organizations at the community level, including, but not limited to, food banks and homeless or domestic violence shelters, to improve health and education and strengthen financial stability.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Revenue Services, Bureau of 0002

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for programming costs related to creating a sales tax exemption certificate.

GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
All Other	\$15,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$15,000	\$0

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act takes effect October 1, 2019.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 553

H.P. 1164 - L.D. 1612

An Act Regarding the Presumption of Abandonment of Gift Obligations

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §2067, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 498, §22, is amended to read:

2. Amount unclaimed is 60%. The amount unclaimed of a gift obligation is ~~60% of the net obligation value at the time it is presumed abandoned.~~ as follows:

A. For a gift obligation whose issuance or whose most recent transaction, whichever is later, occurred during calendar year 2019 or earlier, 60% of the net obligation value at the time it is presumed abandoned;

B. For a gift obligation whose issuance or whose most recent transaction, whichever is later, occurred during calendar year 2020, 40% of the net obligation value at the time it is presumed abandoned;

C. For a gift obligation whose issuance or whose most recent transaction, whichever is later, occurred during calendar year 2021, 20% of the net obligation value at the time it is presumed abandoned; and

D. For a gift obligation whose issuance or whose most recent transaction, whichever is later, occurred during calendar year 2022 or after, 0% of the net obligation value at the time it is presumed abandoned.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 554

H.P. 1430 - L.D. 2009

An Act To Permit the Expansion of Municipal Membership of the Greater Portland Transit District

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 Greater Portland Transit District initiated a pilot project to provide express bus service between the City of Portland and the Town of Brunswick, called "Metro Breez," in coordination with participating municipalities located along the Metro Breez route; and

Whereas, as a result of Metro Breez's strong ridership performance, support among riders and businesses, the long-term potential to help relieve Interstate 295 congestion and the opportunity to help drive sustainable community and economic development, the district desires to transition Metro Breez from its pilot phase to a permanent regional transit service; and

Whereas, the participating municipalities support the continuation of Metro Breez as a permanent service and desire to join the board of directors of the district in order to participate in the development of the district's annual budget and establish the local contributions of the district's member municipalities to fund Metro Breez as a permanent service; and

Whereas, in accordance with the district's budget process as set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 3516, the board of directors of the district must initiate the budget process by preparing and submitting to the municipal officers of its member municipalities an estimated budget by November 1st of each year and must finalize its budget by March 1st of the subsequent year; and

Whereas, Title 30-A, section 3504 provides that the district may expand its membership to include other municipalities located wholly or partially within the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System,

but not all of the participating municipalities are located wholly or partially within the system; and

Whereas, this legislation allows municipalities that are contiguous to the system to join the board of directors of the district; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect as soon as possible to help ensure these municipalities may timely participate in the district's budget process; 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. 30-A MRSA §3504, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2009, c. 18, §2, is further amended to read:

3. Greater Portland Transit District. The board of directors of the Greater Portland Transit District, composed of the City of Portland, the City of Westbrook and the Town of Falmouth, consists of 5 directors appointed from the City of Portland, 3 directors appointed from the City of Westbrook and 2 directors appointed from the Town of Falmouth. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this chapter, the board of directors of the Greater Portland Transit District may receive and accept applications for membership from other municipalities located wholly or partially within, or contiguous to, the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System whether or not they are contiguous to other members of the Greater Portland Transit District and may determine the number of directors to be appointed from those municipalities to the board of directors of the Greater Portland Transit District on any basis that is mutually agreed upon by the municipality applying for membership and the board of directors of the Greater Portland Transit District. The member municipalities may, by ordinance, provide that their appointees serve at the will of the appointing power or for terms that are shorter than those established in subsection 2.

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

Effective February 4, 2020.

CHAPTER 555

H.P. 1180 - L.D. 1645

An Act To Create Affordable Workforce and Senior Housing and Preserve Affordable Rural Housing

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4722, sub-§1, ¶EE, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 234, §18, is amended to read:

EE. Refinance a single-family mortgage loan held by the Maine State Housing Authority for a homeowner whose income at the time of refinancing is no greater than the income limits for qualified first-time homebuyers established under 26 United States Code, Section 143, or an existing loan on any owner-occupied single-family residence for purposes of lowering mortgage payments or making home improvements for persons of low income; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §4722, sub-§1, ¶FF, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 234, §18, is amended to read:

FF. Provide grants to eligible homeowners who are served by private well water that shows evidence of high levels of arsenic contamination. For purposes of this paragraph, "homeowner" includes an individual who occupies a single-family dwelling that is located on land that is owned by a member of that individual's immediate family and "immediate family" means a spouse, parent, child, sibling, stepchild, stepparent and grandparent; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §4722, sub-§1, ¶GG is enacted to read:

GG. In accordance with the credit for affordable housing established in Title 36, section 5219-WW and in accordance with rules adopted under the Maine Administrative Procedure Act:

- (1) Allocate the credit;
- (2) Administer and enforce the requirements of the credit; and
- (3) Perform other functions and duties necessary for the proper administration of the credit, including providing any necessary certifications and notices to taxpayers and to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services containing information required by the State Tax Assessor necessary for determining eligibility and the amount of the credit for each taxable year.

Rules adopted under this paragraph are routine technical rules.