

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

1. Use existing programs, staff and resources to the extent possible;

2. Define and articulate the scope of the food and nutrition situation in the State, including accurate data and information related to the contribution of relevant sectors on nutrition, food consumption and production, food distribution systems, household incomes and other relevant demographic data, in order to address the multiple dimensions of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition;

3. Include any recommendations of legislative commissions, task forces, working groups or studies on ending hunger for any targeted population that will prove effective for the general population;

4. Determine any disproportionate impact of hunger, food insecurity or malnutrition on people living in food deserts across the State and include proposals to close those gaps more quickly as the State moves toward eradicating hunger;

5. Determine the barriers to access to healthy and culturally appropriate food and include proposals to eliminate those barriers for persons who struggle with intergenerational hunger, food insecurity or malnutrition and for persons who struggle with intermittent hunger, food insecurity or malnutrition;

6. Balance supply-side policies and solutions such as increasing agricultural productivity and accessing markets, investing in family farms, small-scale fisheries and forestry and fostering governance of land tenure and natural resources with policies and solutions that promote food self-sufficiency, including hunting, foraging and the policies outlined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, section 219;

7. Establish benchmarks and measurable outcomes based on sound evidence and analysis to monitor progress, assess impacts and interpret outcomes in order to ensure that actions bring the State closer to eradicating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition by 2030; and

8. Identify and propose adequate resource allocation in order to translate policies, programs and legislation into concrete action.

Sec. 2. Initial design commencement. Resolved: That, no later than 30 days after the effective date of this resolve, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall begin inviting interested parties, stakeholders and the departments outlined under section 1 to convene the first planning session.

Sec. 3. Initial design report. Resolved: That, by February 10, 2020, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry detailing the initial design for the plan under section 1. The committee is author-

ized to submit legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 33

H.P. 909 - L.D. 1248

Resolve, To Direct the ConnectME Authority To Report on the Progress of the Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine

Sec. 1. Direction to report. Resolved: That in 2020, 2021 and 2022 the ConnectME Authority established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 9203 shall include in its annual report due January 15th to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters, as required under Title 35-A, section 9208, information outlining the progress of the authority in meeting the goals of its Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine developed pursuant to Title 35-A, section 9218, including but not limited to an explanation of the measures that the authority has taken to:

1. Build partnerships with private businesses and state, county and municipal planning organizations, including but not limited to regional transportation planning authorities; and

2. Coordinate and communicate with the Department of Transportation in order to facilitate the installation of broadband infrastructure along roadways.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 34

H.P. 595 - L.D. 821

Resolve, To Review Case Loads for Child Welfare Caseworkers

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

Whereas, child welfare caseworkers need sufficient time to focus on each child welfare case to ensure timely and thorough investigations of abuse and neglect and to keep children safe; and

Whereas, the Department of Health and Human Services must begin a review of child welfare case loads 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

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to review case load standards. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall review case load standards for child welfare caseworkers and develop standard case load recommendations with input from child welfare caseworkers and the Public Consulting Group contracted by the department under contract number CBH-19-9000. The department shall submit an initial report with its findings and recommendations on staffing in the department's child welfare program in relation to the standard case load recommendations no later than October 1, 2019 and subsequent annual reports by January 31st of each year beginning in 2020 and ending in 2030 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and the joint legislative committee established to oversee program evaluation and government accountability matters.

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

Effective May 21, 2019.

CHAPTER 35

H.P. 836 - L.D. 1147

Resolve, To Direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Study Registration Fees for All-terrain Vehicles and Snowmobiles

Sec. 1. Registration fees for all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall, in consultation with interested parties, review the registration fees in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 13104, subsection 4 and section 13155, subsection 5 to determine if there are alternatives to the current fee structure. In considering alternatives, the commissioner shall also consider how any change may affect revenues. The commissioner shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by February 1, 2020 detailing the alternatives that were considered and the possible ef-

fects on revenue that these alternatives may have. The report must include recommendations regarding registration fees for all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles and a list of interested parties that participated in any discussions on this topic. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature based on the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 36

H.P. 515 - L.D. 710

Resolve, To Require the Department of Environmental Protection To Study the Establishment of a Product Stewardship Program for Mattresses

Sec. 1. Department of Environmental Protection to study the establishment of a product stewardship program for mattresses. Resolved: That the Department of Environmental Protection, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall study the establishment of a new stewardship program in the State for mattresses, in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, chapter 18.

Sec. 2. Reporting date established. Resolved: That the department shall report the findings of its study in section 1, including recommendations and recommended legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources by December 4, 2019. The joint standing committee may report out a bill relating to the subject matter of this report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 37

H.P. 746 - L.D. 1004

Resolve, To Direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services To Study the Costs and Benefits of Telework to the State and Its Employees

Preamble. Whereas, the Legislature finds that permitting state employees to telework is likely to reduce carbon emissions in the State by eliminating or substantially reducing the physical commutes to and from state employees' usual work sites; and