

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

Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 3011 for the Bridging Rental Assistance Program in order to ensure fairness, equity and access to the program for those persons with mental illness who qualify for the program.

Sec. 2. Delay in adoption of rules. Resolved: That if the Department of Health and Human Services anticipates a delay in the adoption of rules under section 1, the department shall submit a report by January 1, 2020 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services detailing the reason for the delay and the progress made.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 61

H.P. 492 - L.D. 671

Resolve, To Require Professional Licensure for Home Inspectors

Sec. 1. Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct a sunrise review regarding the proposal to license home inspectors. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation shall conduct an independent assessment pursuant to the sunrise review requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 1-A, subchapter 2 of the proposal to license home inspectors.

Sec. 2. Reporting date established. Resolved: That no later than January 10, 2020 the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation shall submit a report with any necessary legislation following the independent assessment under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business. The committee is authorized to submit legislation on the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 62

H.P. 1008 - L.D. 1394

Resolve, To Direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services To Conduct a Surplus Property Inventory

Preamble. Whereas, the State continues to experience a severe shortage of affordable housing; and

Whereas, the cost of land is one of the biggest barriers to the development of new affordable housing; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Department of Administrative and Financial Services to conduct an inventory of surplus state-owned land and structures. Resolved:

That the Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall conduct an inventory of surplus state-owned land and structures, pursuant to the authority and process established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1742, subsection 23. The inventory must include all surplus vacant land, unimproved structures and improved structures. The department shall provide the inventory to and consult with the Maine State Housing Authority in determining the suitability of land and structures for use in the development of affordable housing, consistent with Title 30-A, section 4754, subsection 3. The department shall report on the outcomes of the inventory and make recommendations regarding affordable housing to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing and the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by February 1, 2020. The Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to surplus state-owned land and structures including a requirement that the department provide an annual report related to surplus state-owned land and structures.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 63

H.P. 851 - L.D. 1168

Resolve, To Improve Maine's Response to Childhood Trauma

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 task force on childhood trauma response guidance, established by this resolve, is convened to develop guidance for kindergarten to grade 12 administrators on appropriate training and responses to childhood trauma; and

Whereas, the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative session; 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 preserva-

tion of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Task force on childhood trauma response guidance. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education shall convene a task force, inviting the participation of experts and interested parties, to develop guidance for kindergarten to grade 12 administrators on appropriate training and responses to childhood trauma. In developing the guidance, the task force shall consult with any other task force or work group convened by the Department of Education whose work may inform the work of this task force and consider the following topics:

1. Training for preschool and kindergarten to grade 12 teachers, administrators and other faculty on adverse childhood experiences and trauma, including the establishment of state certification rules regarding training hours in trauma and the effect of trauma on learning and behavior;

2. A response-to-intervention process that includes behavioral health and social and emotional screening and referral to support procedures;

3. A policy that sets a standard ratio for students to support staff to ensure adequate staffing to meet the behavioral and emotional needs of students;

4. A social and emotional learning curriculum for kindergarten to grade 8;

5. An attendance policy and discipline policy that is established with a trauma-informed perspective; and

6. A policy that ensures publicly funded schools and preschools have the resources and funds necessary to develop school and school administrative unit action plans for addressing the needs of traumatized children and creating trauma-informed school environments.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education shall submit a report on the work of the task force under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 4, 2019. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

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

Effective June 10, 2019.

CHAPTER 64

S.P. 509 - L.D. 1603

Resolve, To Coordinate a Plan To Expand Cellular Telephone Service

Sec. 1. Plan to expand cellular telephone service. Resolved: That the Department of Economic and Community Development, in coordination with the ConnectME Authority established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 33-F, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the University of Maine System, Networkmaine, shall develop a plan to leverage state assets to expand cellular telephone service to underserved areas of the State. The plan may be developed in connection with any plans to expand broadband service prepared by the ConnectME Authority pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 93.

Sec. 2. Report; authority for legislation. Resolved: That, no later than February 1, 2020, the Department of Economic and Community Development shall submit a report on the plan developed under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 65

H.P. 925 - L.D. 1283

Resolve, To Advance College Affordability by Convening a Task Force To Recommend a Sustainable Funding Model for Maintaining Maine's Public Higher Education Infrastructure

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 Task Force To Recommend a Sustainable Funding Model for Maintaining Maine's Public Higher Education Infrastructure is convened by this legislation to study how to adequately fund the infrastructure and related needs of public higher education institutions in the State; and

Whereas, the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the study may be