

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 2, 2020 to March 30, 2021

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
April 28, 2021 to July 19, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
OCTOBER 18, 2021

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

Augusta, Maine
2021

utility for capacity, energy and renewable energy credits generated from a research array as directed by the commission.

Sec. 4. Study of infrastructure related to offshore wind energy generation. The Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the Governor's Energy Office and the Office of the Public Advocate and with input from the public and interested stakeholders, by February 1, 2022, shall submit one or more reports to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. The report or reports must include information regarding options for the technology, location and creation of transmission infrastructure related to the development of offshore wind energy generation in the Gulf of Maine and transmission solutions proposed or built in other states and countries. The report or reports must include ways to protect species, habitats, the environment and traditional marine users from imprudent development while encouraging efficient transmission investment. The report or reports must recommend public and private transmission financing and ownership structures and include any necessary legislation to achieve the State's climate policy objectives. The committee may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report or reports.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 328

H.P. 261 - L.D. 363

An Act Regarding the Statute of Limitations for Injuries or Harm Resulting from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

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

Sec. 1. 14 MRSA §752-F is enacted to read:

§752-F. Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances

A cause of action arising out of any harm or injury caused by a perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance accrues on the date the plaintiff discovers or reasonably should have discovered such harm or injury. For the purposes of this section, "perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance" means any member of the class of fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom. This section does not affect application of notice requirements for filing under section 8107 or the limitation on actions against a government entity under section 8110.

Sec. 2. Application; retroactive application. This Act applies to all actions arising out of any harm

or injury caused by a perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance and applies retroactively to those actions arising out of conduct occurring prior to the effective date of this Act.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 329

S.P. 189 - L.D. 483

An Act To Clarify Funding for Civil Legal Services

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §18-A, sub-§3-A, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 509, §3, is amended to read:

C. A surcharge of \$127 must be imposed by a court on the fee for commencement of each debt collection action for small claims or money judgment closure action when the action is brought by a person who is a debt buyer, as defined by Title 32, section 11002, subsection 5-A, or a debt collector within the meaning of, as defined by Title 32, section 11002, subsection 6, and the. The surcharge must be deposited in the fund and is not a recoverable cost under Title 14, section 1502-B.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §18-B, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 560, Pt. I, §3, is amended to read:

7. **Fees Authority and fees.** When The Judicial Department is authorized to refer cases to the Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Service for mediation and, when a court refers parties to the Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Service for mediation, the court shall assess the parties a fee to be apportioned equally among the parties, unless the court otherwise directs. The fee must be deposited in the dedicated account created in subsection 8.

A party may file an in forma pauperis application for waiver of fee. If the court finds that the party does not have sufficient funds to pay the fee, it shall order the fee waived.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 330

H.P. 593 - L.D. 788

An Act To Align the Preconviction and Post-conviction Discretionary Deductions for Time Served

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