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

of a plan to promote the use of deer wintering areas by deer.

Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §10109, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Acquisition of land; deer wintering areas. The commissioner shall identify areas that are important to the conservation of deer in northern, eastern and western Maine, and may acquire these lands, including with funds provided by the Land for Maine's Future Fund in accordance with Title 5, section 6207. These lands must be designated as wildlife management areas and managed with deer conservation as the highest management priority, and the commissioner shall ensure that appropriate deed restrictions are placed on the land that reflect these priorities. The commissioner shall also develop appropriate purchase and sale agreements that ensure that deer wintering areas on land to be acquired pursuant to this subsection are preserved as deer wintering areas prior to purchase. Beginning January 15, 2023 and annually thereafter, the department shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on the acquisition and management of deer wintering areas.

Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §10264, as amended by PL 2011, c. 668, §3, is further amended to read:

§10264. Maine Deer Management Fund

The Maine Deer Management Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the department as a nonlapsing fund to be used by the commissioner to fund or assist in funding predator control and to acquire or enhance deer habitat. The commissioner shall establish on the department's online licensing system checkoff options that allow a person to donate money for predator control or deer habitat acquisition or enhancement. The checkoff options must be prominently displayed and contain web links to information about how the checkoff revenues have been and will be used. The commissioner shall also print in a prominent place on every paper application for a hunting license checkoff options that allow a person to donate money to the fund for predator control or deer habitat acquisition or enhancement. Revenues from the checkoffs must be deposited in the fund and used for purposes indicated by the checkoffs.

Notwithstanding section 10801, subsection 4, \$2 of each deer registration fee collected under section 12301-A, subsection 3, paragraph C must be deposited in the fund. Fifty percent of the funds deposited in the fund from the deer registration fees must be used for predator control purposes and 50% of the deposited fees must be used to acquire or enhance deer habitat. The commissioner may accept and deposit into the fund

monetary gifts, donations or other contributions from public or private sources for the purposes specified in this section. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. The department shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on the fund and its utilization.

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

Effective July 8, 2021.

CHAPTER 410 S.P. 86 - L.D. 198

An Act To Improve Maine's Tax Laws by Providing a Property Tax Exemption for Central Labor Councils

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §652, sub-§1, ¶F, as amended by PL 2007, c. 627, §20, is further amended to read:

F. The real estate and personal property owned and occupied or used solely for their own purposes by central labor councils, chambers of commerce or boards of trade in this State are exempt from taxation. For the purposes of this paragraph, "central labor council" means an association or network of labor unions designed to promote and protect the interests of their members.

Further conditions to the right of exemption are that:

- (1) A director, trustee, officer or employee of any organization claiming exemption may not receive directly or indirectly any pecuniary profit from the operation of that organization, except as reasonable compensation for services in effecting its purposes or as a proper beneficiary of its purposes;
- (2) All profits derived from the operation of the organization and the proceeds from the sale of its property must be devoted exclusively to the purposes for which it is organized; and
- (3) The institution, organization or corporation claiming exemption under this paragraph must file with the assessors upon their request a report for its preceding fiscal year in such detail as the assessors may reasonably require.

See title page for effective date.