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

CHAPTER 69 H.P. 367 - L.D. 504

Resolve, Regarding Certification for Certain Mental Health Rehabilitation Technicians

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

Whereas, this legislation implements a recommendation of the Working Group on Mental Health to address critical workforce shortages and reduce barriers to employment for those providing mental health services; and

Whereas, this legislation requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its guidelines for mental health rehabilitation technician/community certification to allow an individual with a bachelor's degree or graduate-level degree in a mental health-related field to receive certification; and

Whereas, it is important that this legislation take effect as soon as possible so that the department can amend its guidelines no later than October 1, 2021; 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 amend its guidelines on community-based mental health rehabilitation technician certification. Resolved: That, no later than October 1, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its guidelines for the mental health rehabilitation technician/community certification, also known as an MHRT/C certification, in order to allow an individual who has completed a 4-year postsecondary educational degree program in a mental health-related field or obtained a graduate degree in a mental health-related field to receive the MHRT/C certification notwithstanding any other guidelines for certification.

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

Effective June 17, 2021.

CHAPTER 70 S.P. 457 - L.D. 1407

Resolve, Regarding Authority of Municipalities To Regulate Timber Harvesting

Sec. 1. Stakeholder group regarding authority of municipalities to regulate timber harvesting. Resolved: That the Director of the Maine Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall convene a group of stakeholders, including, but not limited to, organizations representing municipalities, family woodland owners, logging contractors, farmers, outdoor recreation and environmental interests and consulting foresters who work in multiple municipalities, to review and assess the law in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 8869, subsection 8 and the corresponding process relating to a municipal proposal to adopt or amend a timber harvesting ordinance. The director shall report the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by December 15, 2021. The joint standing committee may submit a bill to the 130th Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 71 S.P. 376 - L.D. 1113

Resolve, To Direct the
Permanent Commission on the
Status of Racial, Indigenous
and Maine Tribal Populations
To Study and Propose
Solutions to Disparities in
Access to Prenatal Care in the
State

Sec. 1. Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations to study and propose solutions to disparities in access to prenatal care in the State. Resolved: That the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations, established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 74-J and referred to in this resolve as "the commission," shall study the extent of disparities in access to prenatal care for the State's racial, indigenous and tribal populations through data and other information; study the causes of the disparities in access to prenatal care, including through interviews with those women who had no prenatal visit until the last trimester or had no prenatal care at all; and recommend solutions to disparities in access to prenatal