

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 7, 2022 to March 30, 2023**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**April 5, 2023 to July 26, 2023**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 29, 2023**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2023**

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

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2023**

The State Archivist serves as a nonvoting member.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 25**

**H.P. 83 - L.D. 137**

**An Act to Amend the Maine Parentage Act Regarding Joinder of Parties**

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

**Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §1836**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 296, Pt. A, §1 and affected by Pt. D, §1, is amended to read:

**§1836. Parties to proceeding**

~~In addition to a child whose parentage is to be adjudicated a proceeding to adjudicate the parentage of a child, all parents of the child must be joined as parties in a proceeding to adjudicate parentage.~~

**Sec. 2. 19-A MRSA §1844, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 296, Pt. A, §1 and affected by Pt. D, §1, is amended to read:

**2. Adjudication in divorce, annulment or legal separation proceeding to dissolve marriage or proceeding to establish parental rights**. In a proceeding for divorce, for legal separation, to ~~dissolve~~ annul a marriage or to establish parental rights and responsibilities, the court is deemed to have made an adjudication of the parentage of a child if the court acts under circumstances that satisfy the jurisdictional requirements of section 2961 and the final order:

A. Expressly identifies a child as a "child of the ~~marriage parties~~" or "issue of the marriage" or by similar words indicates that the parties are the parents of the child; or

B. Provides for support of the child by the parent or parents.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 26**

**H.P. 90 - L.D. 144**

**An Act Regarding the Monitoring of Municipal Abandoned Property**

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

**Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §946-C, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 127, §2, is amended to read:

**4. Program to monitor municipal abandoned property.** A municipality that certifies abandoned property under this section shall submit the address and parcel data for the abandoned property to the ~~Maine State Housing Redevelopment Land Bank Authority under Title 30-A, chapter 204~~ for use in determining opportunities for redevelopment, ~~programs supporting first time home buyers and similar programs and data analysis.~~

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 27**

**H.P. 357 - L.D. 552**

**An Act Regarding the Definition of "Reportable Accident"**

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

**Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §2251, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 348, §23, is further amended to read:

**1. Definition.** As used in this section, "reportable accident" means an accident on a public way or a place where public traffic may reasonably be anticipated, resulting in bodily injury or death to a person or apparent property damage of ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,000 or more. Apparent property damage under this subsection must be based upon the market value of the necessary repairs and may not be limited to the current value of the vehicle or property.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 28**

**S.P. 19 - L.D. 27**

**An Act to Align Maine's Lead Abatement Law with Federal Definitions and to Clarify Lead Abatement Licensing and Certification Requirements**

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

**Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1291, sub-§26-A**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 628, Pt. B, §3, is amended to read:

**26-A. Residential dwelling.** "Residential dwelling" means a room or group of rooms that form a single independent habitable unit for ~~permanent~~ occupation by one or more individuals that has facilities with permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation, including common areas and appurtenant structures. "Residential dwelling" does not include: