

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.

Augusta, Maine
2023

before a snowstorm and ending 48 hours after the snowstorm.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 73
S.P. 309 - L.D. 751**

**An Act to Clarify the Powers of
a Conservator to Transfer
Property**

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

Sec. 1. 18-C MRSA §5-414, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 and affected by PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14, is amended to read:

B. Sell, encumber, convey or release an interest in, sign or revoke a transfer on death deed for or surrender a lease to the primary dwelling of the individual subject to conservatorship. For purposes of this paragraph, "transfer on death deed" has the same meaning as in section 6-402, subsection 6;

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 74
H.P. 523 - L.D. 834**

**An Act to Ensure
Transparency in the Labeling
of Meat as Grass-fed**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2157, sub-§15, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 528, §10 and corrected by RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. A, §23, is amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

For the purposes of this subsection, "hemp" has the same meaning as in Title 7, section 2231, subsection 1-A, paragraph D; or

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2157, sub-§16, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 455, §1 and reallocated by RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. A, §22, is amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

As used in this subsection, "poultry," "poultry product," "meat" and "meat product" have the same meanings as in section 2511-; or

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2157, sub-§17 is enacted to read:

17. Grass-fed claims. If a person sells, offers for sale or distributes within the State or sells, offers for sale or serves in any retail food establishment or eating

establishment as defined in section 2491, subsection 7 any meat or meat product as defined in section 2511 labeled or advertised as "grass-fed" or by similar designation unless the ruminant animal was grass-fed.

For purposes of this subsection, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Acceptable additional feed" means hay, haylage, baleage, silage, crop residue without grain and other sources of roughage as well as routine mineral and vitamin supplementation.

B. "Forage" means annual or perennial grasses, forbs and other browse. "Forage" also includes cereal grain crops in the vegetative stage of growth.

C. "Grass-fed" means, with respect to meat or a meat product, that the ruminant animal from which the meat was derived:

(1) Consumed only forage and acceptable additional feed during its lifetime with the exception of milk consumed prior to its weaning; and

(2) Had continuous access to pasture during each growing season until slaughter.

A determination that meat or a meat product is misbranded may be waived by the commissioner upon application if the commissioner finds a waiver warranted due to inadvertent exposure of the animal to nonforage feedstuffs or because incidental supplementation with nonforage feedstuffs was necessary to ensure the well-being of the animal during adverse environmental or physical conditions.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 75
H.P. 670 - L.D. 1034**

**An Act to Require That Service
of a Temporary Protection
Order Be Attempted Within 48
Hours from the Issuance of the
Order**

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §4114, sub-§11, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 647, Pt. A, §3 and affected by Pt. B, §65, is amended to read:

11. Service of protection from abuse order. Every law enforcement agency shall adopt a written policy on the service of protection from abuse orders that directs that every order issued under this chapter is served on the subject of the order as quickly as possible, including that service of every temporary, emergency or

interim order issued under this chapter must be attempted within 48 hours after receiving notice of that order from the court. Service of a protection from abuse order that is not in compliance with a policy adopted under this subsection does not affect the validity of the service or the order.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 76
S.P. 637 - L.D. 1605

An Act to Amend the Terms of the Members of the Maine Space Corporation Board of Directors by Requiring Staggered Terms

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 Maine Space Corporation was established by Public Law 2021, chapter 631; and

Whereas, the Governor is directed to appoint 11 members to the corporation's board of directors, and these appointments must be made as soon as possible in order for the board of directors to convene and conduct its business, including establishing bylaws for the corporation; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13203, sub-§4, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 631, §1, is amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

The terms of the members of the board of directors who are not ex officio members must be staggered as specified in the bylaws of the corporation are appointed for 3-year terms. A vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment in accordance with this paragraph for the balance of the unexpired term. A member of the board of directors continues to hold office until a successor is appointed and qualified, but the term of the successor is not altered from the original expiration date of the holdover member's term.

Sec. 2. Staggered terms. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 13203, subsection 4, paragraph C, with regard to the initial appointments of the members of the Board of Directors of the

Maine Space Corporation, the Governor shall appoint 4 members to a one-year term, 4 members to a 2-year term and 3 members to a 3-year term.

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

Effective May 11, 2023.

CHAPTER 77
S.P. 100 - L.D. 194

An Act to Update and Clarify the Public Utilities Commission's Reporting Requirements

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2001, c. 137, §1, is further amended to read:

3. Regional issues. The commission's efforts undertaken in accordance with its authority under this Title to promote and protect consumer interests through participation in and presentations before regional entities and federal agencies with jurisdiction over regional marketplaces that affect the State's consumers, including, but not limited to, the efforts described in section 1911. The commission must provide an assessment of staffing requirements to undertake these responsibilities;

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2009, c. 122, §8, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2021, c. 236, §1, is further amended to read:

6. Significant developments. Any significant developments in the utility sectors or other areas of commission oversight; including, but not limited to, the developments described in the following provisions:

A. Section 3195, subsection 5; and

B. Section 4706, subsection 9;

Sec. 4. 35-A MRSA §120, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 122, §11, is amended to read:

7. Other. All other subjects that the commission is required to include in the annual report pursuant to law; including, but not limited to, the following provisions:

A. Title 25, section 2927, subsection 5;

B. Section 3144, subsection 5;

C. Section 3214, subsection 6;

D. Section 3217, subsection 4;