

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

from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator or its successor to contribute to the fund. A voice network service provider is not required to contribute to the fund for telephone numbers that are acquired by the provider but are not placed in service. The fund must be available, with any accumulated interest, to qualified libraries, qualified schools and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine to assist in paying the costs of acquiring and using advanced telecommunications technologies.

The commission may investigate a voice network service provider to ensure compliance with this section.

Sec. 5. 35-A MRSA §7110 is enacted to read:

§7110. Registration requirements of interconnected voice over Internet protocol service provider

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "North American Numbering Plan Administrator" has the same meaning as in section 7104, subsection 1-A, paragraph A.

B. "Numbering resources" has the same meaning as in section 7104, subsection 1-A, paragraph D.

2. Registration. A provider of interconnected voice over Internet protocol service shall register with the commission in a manner prescribed by the commission prior to requesting numbering resources in the State. The registration must include:

A. Contact information for a representative of the provider responsible for regulatory and numbering matters; and

B. An acknowledgment that the provider of interconnected voice over Internet protocol service must file a notice with the commission at least 30 days before requesting numbers from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator or its successor.

When there is any change in the contact information required by paragraph A, a provider of interconnected voice over Internet protocol service shall update its registration information.

3. Information requests. A provider of interconnected voice over Internet protocol service registered under subsection 2 shall, upon the commission's request, provide the commission with detailed information relating to the distribution of numbering resources in the State, unless the interconnected voice over Internet protocol service provider is prohibited from doing so by state or federal privacy laws, rules or regulations.

4. Authority. The commission may exercise any authority provided to the states by 47 Code of Federal

Regulations, Part 52 in effect on December 16, 2022 in order to maximize numbering resources.

5. Rules. The commission may adopt rules to implement the requirements of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

6. Enforcement. Failure of a provider of interconnected voice over Internet protocol service to comply with this section or any applicable commission rule is subject to administrative penalties under section 1508-A.

Sec. 6. Public Utilities Commission; report. No later than January 12, 2024, the Public Utilities Commission shall provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology that:

1. Includes a summary of the compliance by voice network service providers, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 7104, subsection 1-A, paragraph E, with the requirements of sections 7104 and 7104-B;

2. Contains an update of the commission's effort to preserve the 207 area code; and

3. Includes an analysis of whether additional efforts could be taken to ensure numbering resources, as defined in section 7104, subsection 1-A, paragraph D, are used efficiently.

The report may include recommendations for any legislation. The committee may report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 145

S.P. 195 - L.D. 414

An Act to Clarify the Provision of Notice of Proposed Rate Increases to Public Utility Customers

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §307, as amended by PL 1999, c. 398, Pt. A, §13 and affected by §§104 and 105, is further amended by enacting after the first paragraph a new paragraph to read:

A public utility seeking a general increase in rates shall send a notice of the increase to its customers by either first-class mail or the method by which the customer receives bills from the utility. The commission shall prepare the notice in consultation with the utility. If, after the notice of the general increase in rates is sent, the utility seeks a rate increase greater than what was

stated in the notice, the utility shall promptly notify the commission. If the utility demonstrates good cause, the commission may allow the utility to seek an increase greater than what was stated in the notice subject to reasonable conditions established by the commission, including, but not limited to, requiring the utility to send a new notice to its customers describing the revised proposed increase.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 146

H.P. 291 - L.D. 474

**An Act to Improve
Collaboration Between
Mandatory Reporters and Law
Enforcement in the
Investigation of Alleged Child
Abuse and Neglect**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4011-A, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Disclosure to law enforcement officer. Upon request of a law enforcement officer investigating a report of child abuse or neglect, a member of the staff of a public or private medical institution, agency or facility or person in charge of the institution, agency or facility or the designated agent who made a report pursuant to subsection 1 shall disclose to the law enforcement officer the same information the member or person reported to the department.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4014, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1987, c. 395, Pt. A, §89, is further amended to read:

1. Reporting and proceedings. A person, including an agent of the department, participating in good faith in reporting under this subchapter or participating in a related child protection investigation or proceeding, including, but not limited to, a multidisciplinary team, out-of-home abuse investigating team or other investigating or treatment team, or a related law enforcement investigation or criminal justice proceeding is immune from any criminal or civil liability for the act of reporting or participating in the investigation or proceeding. Good faith does not include instances when a false report is made and the person knows the report is false. ~~Nothing in this~~ This section may not be construed to bar criminal or civil action regarding perjury or regarding the abuse or neglect which that led to a report, investigation or proceeding.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 147
H.P. 307 - L.D. 490**

**An Act to Designate the
Department of Health and
Human Services as the
Implementing Department of
the Lead-safe Housing Registry**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1322-E, sub-§3, ¶G, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 628, Pt. A, §5, is amended to read:

G. Implementation of the lead-safe housing registry by the ~~Department of Environmental Protection~~ department pursuant to Title 38, chapter 12-B and achieving the goal of elimination of childhood lead poisoning risks in the State section 1331.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1331 is enacted to read:

§1331. Registry of leased lead-safe residential dwellings

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Lead-based paint" has the same meaning as in Title 38, section 1291, subsection 16.

B. "Residential dwelling" has the same meaning as in Title 38, section 1291, subsection 26-A.

2. Registry. The department shall maintain a registry of leased residential dwellings built before 1978 that are lead-safe as designated by the residential dwelling owners in accordance with subsection 3.

3. Designation as lead-safe. A leased residential dwelling may be designated as lead-safe for the purposes of this section if the residential dwelling owner has submitted to the department an application for the leased residential dwelling to be placed on the registry created pursuant to subsection 2. Submission of an application to the registry is voluntary on the part of the residential dwelling owner.

4. Application. The application under subsection 3 must be submitted together with a report by a lead inspector that indicates that the leased residential dwelling has been tested for the presence of lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or a report by a lead dust sampling technician that indicates the leased residential dwelling has been tested for lead-contaminated dust. The report must indicate that the leased residential dwelling meets the requirements for inclusion on the registry in accordance with the standards and procedures established by the department.