

# 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**

**Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §4622, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 366, §21, is further amended by enacting after paragraph D a new blocked paragraph to read:

If the commission issued a right-to-sue letter, the plaintiff may not be awarded attorney's fees, civil penal damages or compensatory and punitive damages unless the plaintiff establishes that the plaintiff received the right-to-sue letter before filing the civil action.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 256**

**H.P. 658 - L.D. 1022**

**An Act to Extend the Time Allowed Between a Regional School Unit Budget Meeting and a Budget Validation Referendum**

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1486, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 463, §2, is further amended to read:

**2. Validation referendum procedures.** The budget validation referendum must be held on or before the ~~30<sup>th</sup>~~ 45<sup>th</sup> calendar day following the scheduled date of the regional school unit budget meeting. The referendum may not be held on a Sunday or legal holiday. The vote at referendum is for the purpose of approving or rejecting the total regional school unit budget approved at the regional school unit budget meeting. The regional school unit board shall provide printed information to be displayed at polling places to assist voters in voting. That information is limited to the total amounts proposed by the regional school unit board for each cost center summary budget category article, the amount approved at the regional school unit budget meeting, a summary of the total authorized expenditures and, if applicable because of action on an article under section 15690, subsection 3, paragraph A, a statement that the amount approved at the regional school unit budget meeting includes locally raised funds that exceed the maximum state and local spending target pursuant to section 15671-A, subsection 5. If the legislative body of the regional school unit at the regional school unit budget meeting approves an article pursuant to section 1485, subsection 5, the substance of the article must be included in the printed information displayed at polling places for the budget validation referendum.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 257**  
**S.P. 441 - L.D. 1072**

**An Act Regarding the Bureau of Motor Vehicles**

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

**Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §152, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 776, §5, is further amended to read:

**5. Assign new identification number.** Assign a new identification number to a vehicle if it has none, or if the vehicle's identification number is destroyed or obliterated, or if the frame, chassis or, if the vehicle is a truck, the cab is changed, or if the vehicle is a reconstructed motorcycle, and shall issue a new certificate of title showing the new identification number upon surrender of the old certificate and completion of an application for title and payment of the fee; ~~and~~

**Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §152, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

**6. Other data.** Require data necessary on forms, applications, certificates, licenses or other documents; ~~and~~

**Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §152, sub-§7** is enacted to read:

**7. Waive penalty or fee.** Waive a penalty or fee required under this Title if the Secretary of State or the secretary's designee determines that the circumstances justify a waiver. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules to administer this subsection that must include but are not limited to rules identifying circumstances that may justify a waiver. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §251, sub-§2-A**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 434, §4 and affected by §37, is amended to read:

**2-A. Databases.** The Secretary of State may provide databases of records pertaining to applications, registrations and certifications of vehicles and to driver's licenses to individuals, businesses and other entities as allowed by section 256 and all other applicable laws. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules to establish a fee schedule and governing procedures.

**Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §351, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 671, §4, is further amended to read:

**5. Expiration of 14-day 30-day temporary registration plate.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a person who operates a vehicle with an expired temporary registration plate issued pursuant to section ~~462~~ 954-A commits: