

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 3, 2024 to May 10, 2024

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 9, 2024

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

Augusta, Maine
2024

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

Effective March 21, 2024.

CHAPTER 559

H.P. 1416 - L.D. 2209

An Act to Increase the Cap on Bonds Issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to Reflect Current Housing Production Needs in the State

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4907, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2001, c. 631, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Limitations on amount of outstanding principal. The Maine State Housing Authority may not at any time have an aggregate principal amount outstanding, in excess of ~~\$2,150,000,000~~ \$3,000,000,000 of mortgage purchase bonds secured by the Housing Reserve Fund or a Capital Reserve Fund to which section 4906, subsection 3, paragraph A applies. Mortgage purchase bonds of the Maine State Housing Authority secured by capital reserve funds to which section 4906, subsection 3, paragraph A does not apply, bond or mortgage insurance, direct or indirect contract with the United States, purchase or repurchase agreement of guaranty with a banking or other financial organization or other credit arrangements securing the bonds may be issued up to \$100,000,000 per calendar year in an aggregate principal amount outstanding at any time not to exceed \$300,000,000.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 560

S.P. 305 - L.D. 747

An Act Regarding the Reporting of Adult Name Changes by the Probate Courts to the State Bureau of Identification

Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, 2/3 of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure; and

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

Whereas, ensuring that the timely and accurate reporting of all name changes to the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, State Bureau of Identification is essential to the operations of the State Bureau of Identification; 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:

PART A

Sec. A-1. 18-C MRSA §1-701, as amended by PL 2021, c. 559, §§1 to 3, is further amended to read:

§1-701. Process to change name

1. Petition, request; where filed. This section governs the process to change the name of a person.

A. A person may petition to change that person's name in the Probate Court in the county where the person resides.

B. A parent or guardian of a minor may petition to change a minor's name in the Probate Court in the county where the minor resides, unless the District Court has exclusive jurisdiction pursuant to Title 4, section 152, subsection 5-A, in which case the petition must be filed in the District Court.

C. A parent or guardian may request to change a minor's name as part of a proceeding concerning parentage or other parental rights, including actions for divorce, parental rights and responsibilities, post-judgment motions and any other proceeding involving parental rights with respect to the minor, in the District Court without filing a separate petition if the parent or guardian asserts good cause.

D. A minor may petition for a name change through an emancipation proceeding without filing a separate petition if the minor asserts good cause.

E. A change of a minor's name may not be ordered pursuant to a protection from abuse order under Title 19-A, section 4007.

For purposes of this section, "parent" means a person who, with respect to the minor, has established parentage pursuant to Title 19-A, chapter 61 and whose parental rights have not been terminated.

For purposes of this section, "guardian" means a person appointed by a court to make decisions with respect to