

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

Legislators to determine potential use of the child care center. The department shall submit a report with findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government no later than October 1, 2024.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 56

H.P. 662 - L.D. 1026

Resolve, to Direct the University of Maine System to Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Dental Therapy Degree Program at the University of Maine at Augusta

Sec. 1. Dental therapy degree feasibility study. Resolved: That the University of Maine System shall study and analyze the feasibility of establishing a dental therapy degree program at the University of Maine at Augusta. The system shall consider the costs associated with establishing a dental therapy program, the demand for a dental therapy program in the State and in the region and any other issues the system considers appropriate.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by November 6, 2024, the University of Maine System shall submit a report that includes, but is not limited to, the findings of and recommended legislation and appropriations requests based on the study and analysis in section 1 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters. The joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 57

H.P. 913 - L.D. 1417

Resolve, to Ensure Efficiency and Effectiveness in Maine's Licensing and Certification of Behavioral Health Services

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to eliminate duplicate licensing visits and surveys. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall ensure that its rule under 14-193 C.M.R. Chapter 6: Licensing of Mental Health Facilities avoids, as far as possible, standards that require duplicate licensing visits and surveys of behavioral health agencies and allows instead any equivalent standards by either national or state accrediting or licensing bodies. The rules must ensure that services

are safe and meet quality requirements, license behavioral services by agency and not by service or facility site unless prohibited by federal Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration or other applicable federal requirements and reduce duplication of effort resulting in the least administrative burden on providers as possible. The department shall submit a report, no later than February 15, 2024, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services with progress meeting the requirements of this resolve. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature if it determines that more legislative action is necessary.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 58

H.P. 159 - L.D. 238

Resolve, Regarding Mortgage Assistance for Persons with Illnesses Related to COVID-19

Sec. 1. Maine State Housing Authority to continue work regarding mortgage assistance. Resolved: That the Maine State Housing Authority shall continue programs administered by the authority on the effective date of this resolve that provide mortgage assistance to residents of the State, including the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund created in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 4853, subsection 1 and the State's implementation of the federal Homeowner Assistance Fund program. No later than February 1, 2024, the authority shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business summarizing its continued work implementing the programs identified in this section and analyzing the effectiveness of those programs in alleviating the financial burdens faced by those suffering the impact of illnesses or other factors related to COVID-19. The committee may report out legislation related to the information provided in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

See title page for effective date.