

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

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 2, 2024.

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

Effective June 20, 2023.

CHAPTER 61
S.P. 137 - L.D. 316

Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Submit a Report on the Employment of Minors

Sec. 1. Department of Labor to submit report on employment of minors. Resolved: That the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards shall submit a report on the employment of minors in the State. The report must include, but is not limited to:

1. Data on the allowed occupations and activities that can be performed by minors, including those occupations and activities considered hazardous occupations under 29 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 570;
2. The call volume, if known, of inquiries to the bureau from employers of minors with questions concerning a minor's ability to work specific occupations and hours;
3. The number of work permits issued, trends in the issuance of work permits and consideration of whether statutory provisions and regulations surrounding the issuance of work permits may be updated; and
4. The incidents of injuries incurred by minors at places of employment, including the number and scope of incidents involving minors.

The bureau shall submit the report no later than January 15, 2024 to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature on any matter relating to the report.

Sec. 2. Department of Labor to update website; work with Department of Education regarding work permits for minors. Resolved: That the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards shall:

1. Post on its publicly accessible website information concerning the current ability of minors to use and operate equipment to make coffee or other beverages that is typically used in country stores or coffee shops under the current law;
2. Post on its publicly accessible website examples of best practices that employers should use when employing minors; and

3. Work with the Department of Education to ensure school superintendents are aware of the ability to designate others in school administrative units to sign work permits for minors.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 62
S.P. 262 - L.D. 594

Resolve, to Review the Resource Parent Bill of Rights

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to review Resource Parent Bill of Rights. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall convene a stakeholder group to examine the department's Resource Parent Bill of Rights to ensure that foster, adoptive and kinship families are adequately supported as active participants in the State's efforts to care for children in need of out-of-home placement. The stakeholder group must include, but is not limited to, department personnel involved in the child welfare system, representatives from statewide organizations that provide support services for adoptive and foster parents and kinship families and representatives from a statewide organization that advocates to improve the short-term and long-term outcomes for youth who are or have been in foster care and resource families. The stakeholder group must also include individuals from a range of different types of resource families, including a family that provides care to a child in the child welfare system, and individuals that are kinship families, foster parents, permanency guardians, adoptive parents and members of a child's extended birth family. The stakeholder group shall examine the Resource Parent Bill of Rights to determine if it adequately ensures sufficient resources, supports, services, involvement and communication for resource families. The department shall submit a report with findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2024.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 63
H.P. 384 - L.D. 607

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Examine Improving Highway Connections from Interstate 95 to the St. John Valley

Sec. 1. Convene stakeholder group. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall